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of America

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No. 108

## Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, June 26, 2017, at 4 p.m.

## House of Representatives

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God of grace and goodness, thank You for giving us another day.

We ask Your blessing of strength and perseverance that each Member might best serve their constituents and our entire Nation.

May it be their purpose to see to the hopes of so many Americans, that they authenticate the grandeur and glory of the ideals and principles of our Republic with the work they do.

Grant that the men and women of the people's House find the courage and wisdom to work together to forge solutions to the many needs of our Nation and ease the anxieties of so many.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HECK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HECK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### RECOGNIZING KAYLA BARRON, NASA ASTRONAUT CANDIDATE

(Mr. NEWHOUSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Kayla Barron of Richland, Washington, who was recently selected for NASA's 2017 Astronaut Candidate Class. Kayla was chosen 1 of 12 from over 18,000 applicants to join just 338 people who have held the prestigious title of American astronaut.

Before applying to the NASA program, Ms. Barron attended the U.S. Naval Academy, where she received several medals and unit commendations while earning a bachelor's degree in systems engineering. She went on to earn a master's degree in nuclear engineering from the University of Cambridge. She was a member of the first class of women commissioned into the submarine community as a submarine warfare officer.

Kayla is an exemplary role model for students interested in science and tech-

nology. I commend her for her hard work, and I wish her luck in her training and her future exploration endeavors.

### BRING BIPARTISANSHIP BACK TO BORING

(Mr. HECK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to tell you about a time when bipartisanship was alive and when Congress was, well, boring for most Americans. In fact, it wasn't that long ago.

It was just in March of 2015 that Democrats and Republicans fixed the Medicare payment formula and funded the Children's Health Insurance Program. I was proud to be a Member of the body that day.

Did our bipartisanship dominate the headlines?

No.

Did it get a lot of attention at town-halls?

No, of course not. Because all of us getting along was, well, boring.

But these recent Republican healthcare proposals, they are not boring. They have been developed in secrecy, they are completely partisan, and they take us backward.

I challenge my friends across the aisle, the Republicans, to join us and fix the parts of the Affordable Care Act that need fixing because the Affordable Care Act has made a real difference for

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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millions of Americans, a positive difference. So let's get back to bipartisan-ship, back to boring, back to basics because that is what our constituents want most of all.

#### FOCUS ON THE FAMILY 40TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. LAMBORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Focus on the Family, a vital American institution dedicated to preserving one of the country's most foundational pillars: the family.

While I cannot attend today's celebration in person, I am grateful that my good friend, Vice President MIKE PENCE, is in Colorado Springs to mark this wonderful occasion.

It would be impossible to fully quantify the impact Focus on the Family has had in our own Nation and across the world. Thousands of marriages have been revived, children have been lovingly disciplined, and families have been reunited and strengthened.

Perhaps most important are the 382,000 lives saved through Focus on the Family's Option Ultrasound program, which helps mothers choose life when faced with unexpected pregnancies.

Those 382,000 lives and, indeed, our entire Nation owe you a debt of gratitude. So to founder Dr. James Dobson, Jim Daly, and the staff of Focus on the Family, I say, "Well, done," and offer you my sincere congratulations.

#### HONORING LUKE NEWMAN

(Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to commend the life and the legacy of an outstanding resident of my community who served in World War II, which is a long time ago, but he also became an outstanding citizen, steeped in the Lutheran church, provided resources to the community where he lived and worked, so I commend Mr. Luke Newman, and I just simply say that we have enjoyed knowing him.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL SERGEANT WILLIAM BISHOP

(Mr. DUNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Florida Highway Patrol Master Sergeant William Bishop of Lake City. Sergeant Bishop was killed last Saturday while working a traffic accident on I-75 in Alachua County, Florida.

Sergeant Bishop is a 30-year veteran of the Florida Highway Patrol, and he

dedicated his life to law enforcement. He truly loved his patrol family. He also served in the United States Army, serving on the front lines all his life. That is a calling, not a job.

Many of Bishop's colleagues remember him as someone who exhibited compassion, honesty, and faith. He loved watching football, but his greatest love of all was his family, especially his son, Trampas.

His service and sacrifice to the State of Florida is a debt we will never be able to repay.

Please join me in honoring Florida Highway Patrol Master Sergeant William Bishop and all of our fallen heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our safety.

#### RECOGNIZING MACKENZIE GORE AS 2016-17 GATORADE NORTH CAROLINA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

(Mr. ROUZER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that North Carolina is home to many great student athletes that serve as community role models.

One prime example is MacKenzie Gore, who graduated from Whiteville High School this month and has been named the 2017 Gatorade North Carolina Baseball Player of the Year. Not only that, he was just recently selected third overall in the Major League Baseball draft by the San Diego Padres.

MacKenzie not only demonstrates athletic excellence, but also exemplary character and work ethic—the two primary traits necessary for great success. Very few have achieved as much as early in life. It is a culmination of years of hard work and commitment.

As with all who are in success, MacKenzie is blessed to have a big decision to make: go pro and play for the Padres or head to East Carolina University to play for the Pirates. Whatever MacKenzie decides, we are all proud of him and wish him the very best.

#### EVAN'S LAW

(Mr. TURNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, sometimes out of loss, a cause arises and the lives of others are saved. I rise today to ask for my colleagues' support of a bill I introduced today, Evan's Law.

My bill would require the Department of Defense to make windows in military residential housing safe for military families and their children by equipping housing units with fall protection and prevention devices to protect against unintentional falls by young children.

We ask our servicemembers to go into harm's way to protect our Nation and our way of life. Our servicemembers deserve to live in residential hous-

ing properly equipped with window fall prevention devices to make sure their children are safe in their own homes.

Mr. Speaker, joining me today in the balcony is Commander Jason English; his wife, Ami; and their children, Jason, Luke, Lydia, and Joshua.

Commander English and his family have been tireless advocates for residential window safety requirements in the Department of Defense. They lost their son Evan. Commander English and his family have worked to raise awareness about the danger young children face in residential housing.

I thank the English family for their hard work. I am hopeful that Evan's Law will become a part of the National Defense Authorization Act. I urge my colleagues to join me in their support.

#### ACCELERATING INDIVIDUALS INTO THE WORKFORCE ACT

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 2842.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NEWHOUSE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 396 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2842.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from California (Mr. DENHAM) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 0911

##### IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2842) to provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to test the effectiveness of subsidized employment for TANF recipients, with Mr. DENHAM in the chair. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support to talk about H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are more than 6 million job openings, the highest level since the government started tracking the data in the year 2000. At the same time, the share of Americans participating in the workforce is near a four-decade low.

Moving welfare recipients into employment is a central goal of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, or TANF. Yet only half of all TANF recipients receiving cash assistance are working or preparing for work.

Some TANF recipients have a difficult time transitioning from welfare into a job, so these types of on-the-job work experiences aid in the transition. The same goes for employers who may be reluctant to hire welfare recipients with limited work experience or other barriers to working.

So the question is: How can we bridge the gap? How do we connect out-of-work Americans with all of the employers who want and need to fill job openings?

H.R. 2842, sponsored by Congressman CURBELO of Florida and Congressman DAVIS of Illinois, encourages employers to work with State and local agencies to hire TANF recipients. States would only be able to use this money to provide benefits to those who are working, providing paychecks in lieu of benefit checks, a key tenet to welfare reform.

Employers would take the lead by partnering with State and local agencies to hire TANF recipients, providing recipients with highly valued work experience and on-the-job training, including apprenticeships.

Earn-and-learn models help people become familiar with the workplace, gain needed skills, and earn a wage.

The bill reserves up to \$100 million for 1 year from the TANF Contingency Fund, which has already been extended through the end of fiscal year 2018 to subsidize up to 50 percent of a TANF recipient's wage for no more than 12 months.

Fifteen percent of the funds would be set aside for career pathway programs, which combine work, training, and other supports to help individuals enter the workforce and move up the economic ladder.

Finally, high-quality evaluations would be used to determine whether these public-private partnerships were effective in helping welfare recipients move into jobs and retain work.

There is broad support from the employer community for helping low-skilled Americans gain on-the-job experience, and there is plenty of support here and across the country for tying government assistance to work or work preparation for those who are able-bodied.

Decades of experience tells us the most effective anti-poverty program is a job. It is helping low-income Americans earn success through the dignity of work.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to stand with Mr. CURBELO in supporting this bill today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 0915

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I strongly support H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act, which is better known as TANF.

This important bill modernizes the TANF Contingency Fund to promote effective job training programs, such as subsidized jobs, career pathways, and apprenticeship programs. Research is clear. Subsidized employment, career pathways, and apprenticeship programs successfully engage people in employment, especially those who have been unsuccessful in finding paid employment through their efforts.

Further research on past TANF subsidized employment programs document that these initiatives increase employment and earnings both while individuals worked in a subsidized job as well as after the program ended. Also, studies show that States operated these programs that provided tremendous benefit at very reasonable cost.

Many States used the TANF Emergency Funds to establish effective subsidized employment programs. Using these TANF Emergency Funds in Illinois, former Governor Pat Quinn implemented the very successful Put Illinois to Work program that directly created over 26,000 jobs, helping close to 5,000 employees in Illinois. Nationally, the TANF Emergency Funds created 260,000 jobs.

Good subsidized employment programs have three characteristics that make them an attractive part of TANF: they are able to increase employment quickly; they help some of the individuals who face the greatest challenges enter the workforce and stay there; and, when funded on a large scale, they can help boost local economies. For these reasons, Democrats have proposed subsidized employment within TANF for years.

My friend and colleague from Wisconsin, GWEN MOORE, initially proposed allowing subsidized employment in TANF via her RISE Act many years ago. I embraced her idea in my Responsible Fatherhood bill, and I am pleased to join with Representative CURBELO on this effort.

If we are truly committed to helping families work their way out of poverty, we will need to do much more to strengthen TANF. We will need to ensure that States actually spend TANF money on TANF recipients. We need to improve access to education and training, critical changes that both Republican and Democratic witnesses have emphasized over and over again. We need to improve childcare so parents can actually go to work.

This bill is a good bill. It makes a small, positive step forward on our path to more comprehensive improvements to TANF. I strongly support it. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. CURBELO), the lead sponsor of the bill.

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of

H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act.

Here in the House, we have prioritized helping Americans escape poverty, and we are working to create policies that are focused on getting individuals into jobs so they can achieve self-sufficiency.

A job is something that dignifies the human condition. It is an opportunity for every individual to make a contribution to their family, their local community, and to our country.

This bill is an innovative solution that will give more people access to that opportunity. Through proposals like H.R. 2842, we can help struggling Americans find work and get on the path to success.

This bipartisan legislation connects Americans looking for work with employers looking to fill job openings, including through apprenticeships and other forms of on-the-job training. It uses \$100 million from the TANF Contingency Fund for grants so States can conduct demonstration projects intended to assist TANF recipients in entering the workforce and maintaining employment.

Importantly, this legislation requires that States meet certain criteria to ensure they achieve their intended goal. This includes a description of how local governments will coordinate these efforts with others that assist low-income individuals.

States must also report on the outcomes of the demonstration projects and provide evaluations to determine whether such employer-led partnerships were effective.

This bill empowers States, giving them the ability to take into account their own unique challenges and design programs that meet both their employers' and job seekers' needs, rather than a top-down Washington approach.

This legislation has support from our business leaders. I include this letter of support in the RECORD.

BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE,  
Washington, DC, June 20, 2017.

Hon. CARLOS CURBELO,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. DANNY K. DAVIS,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE CURBELO AND REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS: Business Roundtable appreciates your bipartisan efforts to bring more people into the workforce who currently have few skills and lack job experience. Your bill, H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act, is a thoughtful approach for encouraging companies to hire recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). We are pleased to support it.

Business Roundtable CEOs believe earn-and-learn programs help people become familiar with the workplace, gain needed skills, and earn a wage. In many inner cities, the unemployment rate for young people is distressingly high, but their prospects improve dramatically if they find a first-time job.

By supporting partnerships among business, government, and education to hire

TANF recipients, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act will give the unemployed an opportunity to work and succeed.

Sincerely,

WES BUSH,  
Chair, Education and  
Workforce Com-  
mittee, Business  
Roundtable; Chair-  
man, Chief Execu-  
tive Officer and  
President, Northrop  
Grumman Corpora-  
tion.

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I was happy to partner with Representative DANNY DAVIS on this effort to move individuals from welfare into long-term employment, and I am proud of the work we have done together.

I would also like to thank Chairman BRADY and Subcommittee Chairman ADRIAN SMITH for their leadership and hard work, as well as Rosemary Lahasky, Anne DeCesaro, and the rest of the House Committee on Ways and Means staff who have worked on this legislation.

Mr. Chairman, if I may add one thing. Last week, in the wake of the tragic shooting against Members of Congress, we all vowed to come together, to find common ground. The Committee on Ways and Means answered that call, and I am very confident that this House will do the same later today.

The American people expect us to have our differences, our disagreements, but they also expect us to find common ground; and Republicans and Democrats have done this today in favor of those who need it most, welfare recipients, needy families in our country. I am very proud to sponsor this legislation, to support it, and I would ask all of my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT), who has worked on these issues for many, many terms and many years.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman and both my colleagues, though I respectfully disagree that this Congress has placed any priority on helping get people out of poverty. Indeed, when it comes to poverty in America, this Congress has largely been silent. I think the Congress itself is impoverished when it comes to ideas about how to lift people up into the middle class.

We talk here so much about the middle class, and appropriately so, but there are millions of people out there who are struggling to just climb up that first or second rung of the economic ladder and work themselves into the middle class, and this Congress is doing little, constructively, to assist them.

The need for real and meaningful change is particularly evident in my home State of Texas, where the State legislature has been so incredibly indifferent to this problem. There, one out

of every four children is below the poverty level, and over one-third of all Texans live in the shadow of poverty, meaning that their income is less than twice the poverty threshold. The Corporation for Enterprise Development ranked Texas near the bottom among all States on key measures related to financial security.

Now, here is what today's bipartisan bill does to respond to that, and it is really a story of the number one.

Of the several Republican proposals that were originally advanced by now-Speaker PAUL RYAN two years ago, some introduced by Republican colleagues and some containing good ideas, this is the one last bill standing.

With the notable exception of a budget that is devastating to opportunities for poor Americans, this is the one and only bill on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, previously known as welfare, that Republicans will even permit us to discuss on the floor of this House.

This one very modest bill does not add one new dollar to address the challenges that those who want to rise from welfare to work need. It simply segregates \$100 million from an existing fund for one year.

Now, get this: the fund from which they are segregating the \$100 million from, Donald Trump is seeking to abolish the entire fund so that no moneys for this proposal will be available after one year.

This bill gives the States no new flexibility, and no new authority. It does not authorize them to do anything that they cannot do today. Indeed, some States—and I think my colleague from Illinois referenced one of these—are already finding ways to, in appropriate situations, subsidize employment.

What this bill does is to say that on this particular \$100 million fund, as long as it lasts, until President Trump eliminates it entirely, that the States must use the money in a particular way. In other words, it seeks to restrict the States who receive these moneys to require them to use it for one particular way to assist those who are in poverty.

It is also significant that the Trump budget cuts are so far-reaching in trying to undermine efforts to raise people out of poverty, and for those who are not able-bodied, to provide them the support that they need. This bill deals with a little less than one-half of one percent of the Trump budget cuts.

I believe, sincerely, that we need a better approach, that we have ideas on both sides of the aisle that are being blocked by a determination to not address root causes of poverty.

First, we should support initiatives that strike at the early seeds of poverty, like the Home Visiting Program that will expire in a mere three months, which helps to improve opportunities for at-risk children and helps their parents be the parents they want to be; and certainly, early childhood education is a key part of that.

Second, we should increase efforts to help people gain the skills they need to secure jobs through which they can support their families at a living wage, and that is the challenge here. Sure, some employers will love to have taxpayers subsidize their workforce, pay part of the wages that they would otherwise have to pay, and sometimes this is a valuable support, particularly for people that are reentering our society after incarceration and other groups of particularly hard-to-place employees. But for many folks, the big question is, when the subsidy ends, when the taxpayer stops paying, will there be a job there? Is there a job ladder that will allow that person to work themselves up, or are they essentially participating in minimum wage employment that will not support their family and will not provide them a future?

There are in-demand skills-training programs that do work and do offer an alternative, but they are not free. They take an investment. An example is Project QUEST in San Antonio.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. I yield the gentleman an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Chairman, Project QUEST has an 86 percent job placement rate for its graduates, who boost their incomes, on average, from \$10,000 a year before entering the program to \$40,000 a year.

I know there are similar programs in other parts of the country that do the same. They are not subsidized employment, but they are working with poor people to get the skills that they need for an in-demand job and working with local employers to find out what types of jobs are most needed. In many parts of America, our economy is being held back by a lack of qualified workers.

Then, one of the areas that is so important to all parents, but particularly to single moms that are in poverty, is childcare. President Trump is proposing not one, but three cuts to childcare, cutting out hundreds of millions of dollars of support to childcare, which stands in the way of many individuals from working their way out of poverty.

I believe that we need to be working together to try to find genuine solutions and that working together is not just here in this House, in Congress, because the big problem here is that, when we voted in 1996—and I voted for it, for moving from welfare to work—we expected the States to be partners in that effort. Today, as much as we talk about work and getting from welfare to work, exactly 8 cents out of every dollar being spent on the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program—8 cents—goes to work supports. And not very much more than that goes to childcare, and President Trump, of course, wants to reduce that.

It is only by having a comprehensive program that is really focused on the roots of poverty and assisting those

who would help themselves that the promise of that welfare law can become effective.

Unfortunately, while we did change fundamentally and end welfare as we know it, it became welfare for Republican Governors who wanted to use these Federal moneys not to assist the poor, but to assist their States fill various budget gaps. We have a great example of where block grants fail. I hope we can find ways to succeed.

□ 0930

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the efforts here today of my colleague from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CURBELO) working together focusing on solutions.

Mr. Chairman, we know that, this day and age, it is very easy to identify the problems and the challenges that our country faces. It is a little more difficult to come up with the solutions and bring people together. I appreciate the efforts of both sides coming together today.

I truly believe that the solutions to our challenges are out in the communities where needy families live, and we know we have many needy families across our country for various reasons. America is a big country. And when you look at the challenges that individuals might face economically, I hope that we can come together as Americans to focus on growing our economy, growing opportunity, hoping that we see, as our number one responsibility, the need to provide for opportunity in the future.

We can't set certain and determine certain outcomes, but we can certainly measure the outcomes from our efforts here in Washington. That is why this bill, very importantly, requires States to report on outcomes through this program. We know that we need to provide more flexibility for States. This does exactly that, and, even more so, with communities.

As we do get the feedback from the States, I hope that we will heed their advice because they are the folks who are more in touch with the needs of their various communities around their jurisdictions, all 50 States.

Mr. Chairman, they are experts, and I hope that we can work together with them here, on both sides of the aisle, in Washington, but also all across America with very diverse needs for needy families.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE), a fierce advocate for low-income people.

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, I thank Ranking Member DANNY DAVIS. I rise to express support for H.R. 2842, Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act.

I do, again, want to thank my dear friend, Representative DAVIS, for recognizing the importance of subsidizing jobs as something that was featured in my RISE Out of Poverty bill, and I applaud this bipartisan bill as a small step in the right direction.

Now, this bill calls for a demonstration project, which would show progress toward reducing poverty in our country through a 1-year test of subsidized employment programs. But I would note, Mr. Chairman, that it certainly does not tackle the larger shortcomings of TANF, which is in desperate need of reform.

If enacted, this bill would exhibit a great start at helping TANF recipients obtain short-term employment. However, methods to retain long-term employment through higher education and childcare options for TANF recipients are still needed.

I do want to point out, Mr. Chairman, that contrary to popular notions of welfare recipients—I have been a welfare recipient myself—people on public assistance do, in fact, want to work, but they want to work at a wage that is sustainable. They want to work at a job that includes training opportunities. They want to work at jobs that provide them with a career ladder, and they, certainly, want to work at a job that will bring them out of poverty—something that will help them work in a durable, lasting fashion.

Since I have a little bit more time than I thought I was going to have, I just want to point out that it is a little-known fact that current law under TANF actually requires welfare recipients to do unwaged work. How absurd is that? Who in this body, Mr. Chairman, would work for absolutely nothing?

I want to note that the proposed funding mechanism in H.R. 2842 does not appear in my RISE Out of Poverty bill. TANF funds are woefully inadequate already. They are pegged to a 1994 appropriations, and, certainly, this flat funding would inure to the detriment of the entire TANF program.

Mr. Chair, I urge Members to support this bill.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I am prepared to close if there are no more speakers. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I want to, first of all, commend Mr. CURBELO for his leadership on this issue, and I certainly agree with him that we have found enough common ground to be here this morning with a bill that we can pass, but I also agree with my friend from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT), that there are many shortcomings to helping individuals actually realize the potential that they have to move beyond poverty to sustainable employment so that they can have a level of living and a level of expectation which gives them the energy that they need to keep moving forward.

There are some improvements that we certainly need to make. We can allow greater education and training. Every time witnesses come before us, they always tell us that, no matter whether they are billed as Republican or Democrat, or with no political stripe. We should improve TANF for kinship caregivers. We should remove the lifetime ban on felony drug convictions. Just imagine, that these individuals will never ever have the opportunity to experience the benefits of this program, or of this effort.

We should remove the 60-month time limit during recessions, and we should remove the ban to assist unwed teen parents and other youth who are displaced.

So clearly, we do have agreement this morning, and I am delighted to be a part of it, but I certainly hope that my colleagues will look at those unmet needs that the legislation does not cover.

I urge its support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate Mr. CURBELO and Mr. DAVIS for their leadership on this issue, and then colleagues from both sides coming together in a bipartisan way so that we can help more Americans get back to work.

This bill requires high-quality evaluations to determine whether these public-private partnerships are effective in helping welfare recipients move into jobs. These evidence-based results will be used to inform future policy decisions to reform our welfare system, similar to the approach taken in the mid-1990s.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on these important issues so more Americans can earn a wage and feel the dignity of work.

Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means, printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115-22. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read.

The text of the amendment in the nature of a substitute is as follows:

H.R. 2842

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act".*

**SEC. 2. DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS TO SUPPORT SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT FOR TANF RECIPIENTS TO ENTER THE WORKFORCE.**

Section 403 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 603) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) **SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall make grants to States to conduct demonstration projects, at least one of which shall fund programs that offer apprenticeships registered under the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the ‘National Apprenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.), designed to implement and evaluate strategies that provide wage subsidies to enable low-income individuals to enter into and retain employment.

“(2) **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.**—The Secretary shall require each State that applies for a grant under this subsection to do the following:

“(A) Describe how wage subsidies will be provided (such as whether paid directly to the employer or the individual), the duration of the subsidies, the amount of the subsidies, the structure of the subsidies, and how employers will be recruited to participate in the subsidized employment program.

“(B) Describe how the State expects those participating in subsidized employment to be able to retain employment after the subsidy ends.

“(C) Describe how the State will coordinate subsidized employment funded under this subsection with other efforts to help low-income individuals enter work as conducted by the State.

“(3) **USE OF FUNDS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—A State to which a grant is made under this subsection may use the grant to subsidize the wages of an eligible recipient for a period not exceeding 12 months, and only to the extent that the total of the funds paid under this project and any other Federal funds so used with respect to the recipient does not exceed 50 percent of the amount of the wages received by the recipient during the period.

“(B) **ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.**—For purposes of subparagraph (A), an eligible recipient is—

“(i) (I) a recipient of assistance under the State program funded under this part or any other State program funded with qualified State expenditures (as defined in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)); or

“(II) a noncustodial parent of a minor child who is receiving assistance referred to in subclause (I);

“(ii) who, at the time the subsidy begins, is unemployed; and

“(iii) whose income, at that time, is less than 200 percent of the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, and revised annually in accordance with section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 9902(2))).

“(4) **LIMITATIONS.**—

“(A) **NONDISPLACEMENT.**—A State to which a grant is made under this subsection shall ensure that no participant in a subsidized job program funded in whole or in part under this subsection is employed or assigned to a job under the program—

“(i) when any other individual is on layoff from the same or any substantially equivalent job; or

“(ii) if the employer has terminated the employment of any regular employee or otherwise caused an involuntary reduction of its workforce in order to fill the vacancy so created with an adult described in paragraph (1).

“(B) **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE.**—A State with a program funded under this subsection shall establish and maintain a grievance procedure for resolving complaints of alleged violations of subparagraph (A).

“(C) **NO PREEMPTION.**—Nothing in this paragraph shall preempt or supersede any provision of State or local law that provides greater protection for employees from displacement.

“(5) **REPORTS.**—As a condition of receiving funds under this subsection for a fiscal year, a State shall submit to the Secretary, within 6 months after the end of the fiscal year, a report that—

“(A) specifies, for each month of the fiscal year, the number of individuals whose employment is subsidized with these funds;

“(B) describes the structure of the State activities to use the funds to subsidize employment, including the amount and duration of the subsidies provided;

“(C) specifies the percentage of eligible recipients who received a subsidy who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after the subsidy ended;

“(D) specifies the percentage of eligible recipients who received a subsidy who are in unsubsidized employment during the fourth quarter after the subsidy ended; and

“(E) specifies the median earnings of eligible recipients who received a subsidy who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after the subsidy ended.

“(6) **EVALUATION.**—The Secretary, in consultation with each State conducting a demonstration project, shall conduct a high-quality evaluation of the demonstration project, and may reserve funds made available under this subsection to conduct the evaluation in accordance with the following:

“(A) **EVALUATOR QUALIFICATIONS.**—The Secretary may not enter into a contract with an evaluator unless the evaluator has demonstrated experience in conducting rigorous evaluations of program effectiveness including, where available and appropriate, well-implemented randomized controlled trials.

“(B) **METHODOLOGIES TO BE USED.**—The evaluation of a demonstration project shall use experimental designs using random assignment or other reliable, evidence-based research methodologies that allow for the strongest possible causal inferences when random assignment is not feasible.

“(C) **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.**—The Secretary shall publish the results of the evaluation on the website of the Department of Health and Human Services in a location easily accessible by the public.

“(7) **RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS.**—The Secretary shall submit recommendations to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate on how to increase the employment, retention, and advancement of individuals currently or formerly receiving assistance under a State program funded under this part or any other State program funded with qualified State expenditures (as defined in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)).

“(8) **FUNDING.**—Of the amounts made available to carry out subsection (b) for fiscal year 2018, the Secretary shall reserve \$100,000,000 to carry out this subsection.

“(9) **USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR CAREER PATHWAY PROGRAMS.**—The Secretary shall use 15 percent of the amounts reserved to carry out this subsection, to fund programs that offer career pathway (as defined in section 3(7) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) services.

“(10) **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.**—Funds provided to a State under this subsection in a fiscal year shall be expended by the State in the fiscal year or in the succeeding fiscal year.”.

**SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The amendment made by this Act shall take effect on October 1, 2017.

The CHAIR. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in House Report 115-187. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debat-

able for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MS. FOXX

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in House Report 115-187.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 2, line 2, before the period, insert the following: “in an in-demand industry sector or occupation identified by the appropriate State or local workforce development board”.

Page 5, after line 13, insert the following:

“(C) describes the State’s policies in effect during the fiscal year—

“(i) to ensure nondisplacement as required under paragraph (4)(A); and

“(ii) to implement grievance procedures as required in (4)(B), including information on the number of grievance claims filed in the preceding fiscal year and the aggregate results of those claims;”.

Page 5, line 14, redesignate subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D).

Page 5, line 18, redesignate subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E).

Page 5, line 22, redesignate subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (F).

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. Foxx) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, this amendment to H.R. 2842, Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act, would make two changes to the bill. The first part of the amendment would encourage the demonstration projects created under this bill to direct beneficiaries toward jobs in an in-demand industry sector or occupation, as identified by workforce boards in their States and local communities.

Today, in this country, there are approximately 6 million jobs that remain unfilled because they require technical skills and knowledge related specifically to an industry or occupation. If we want to help participants move from government assistance and hold a job, then we must set them on a path toward jobs and industries that are currently, and will remain, competitive in the evolving 21st century economy.

The second part of my amendment would include in the reports from States that establish these demonstration projects information about their efforts to ensure nondisplacement of workers and to address grievance claims. Congress’ future decisions related to similar programs will be enhanced by having access to this information and data reported from the States.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.



Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition, although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes. There was no objection.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would further strengthen the protections against displacement of current employees. I think it is a goal that we all share to make sure that this bill expands employment, rather than just changing who is employed.

I plan to support the gentlewoman's amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, as our economy continues to recover and evolve, it is critical that job seekers have the resources needed to gain the skills they need to compete for in-demand jobs. That was the aim of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act that we passed in 2014, and my amendment encourages State agencies to coordinate with their workforce boards to continue these efforts.

My amendment also would improve the information participating States submit about their demonstration projects, providing important data for decisionmakers in the future. I thank my colleagues for their consideration and ask for their support of this amendment and the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. BOST

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in House Report 115-187.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 2, line 20, after "individuals", insert "including individuals displaced or relocated from a public housing authority to an alternative public housing facility or placed on rental assistance,".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

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Mr. BOST. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today to provide relief to the people of Cairo, Illinois, and other communities across the country who have fallen victim to corruption in their local housing authorities.

Last year, the Department of Housing and Urban Development took control of Alexander County Housing Au-

thority in my district after decades of fraud and mismanagement. Many of Cairo's public housing units were falling apart, rating somewhere between dangerous and unlivable. All the while, the housing authority's senior staff continued to cash in: excessive pay, great benefits, large pension payouts, and big consulting contracts for former executive directors. All of this was paid for with taxpayers' money.

An investigation by The Southern Illinoisan newspaper found local residents coping with leaking roofs, moldy living facilities, broken heating and air conditioning, rats, and cockroaches—unbelievable living conditions.

This didn't happen overnight. It happened after many years of neglect. The situation is so bad that the worst housing units in Cairo are being destroyed, and families are being required to move.

Sadly, Cairo's story is not unique. Similar stories of mismanagement and fraud have occurred in housing authorities across the country. While I continue to fight for families in Cairo, we must work to help those who have been relocated at no fault of their own.

My amendment would require the State applications include plans to help these families transition to their new communities and find work. This will be an important step forward for Americans already fighting to stay on their feet.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. I want to say to everyone, if they can, to support this amendment.

I want everyone to know also that it is my hope that both State and Federal authorities pursue, in this particular case, those who have abused the system, that they prosecute them, and that they are put in situations where they are in prison, because there they will receive better housing conditions than what they left these people with.

Now, this amendment deals with the fact of allowing them the opportunity to work and to step them up into a better life. But I hope and I pray that the people who are responsible for Cairo and all these other facilities will be prosecuted to the full extent.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MS. BONAMICI

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in House Report 115-187.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 2, after line 21, insert the following:  
“(D) Describe how the State will coordinate subsidized employment funded under this subsection with the Federal Work-Study Program, career pathway (as defined in sec-

tion 3(7) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) services, and other Federal programs to help low-income individuals complete education and training programs and enter the workforce.”.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Oregon.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chairman, the amendment I am offering with my colleague, Representative SUSAN DAVIS, strengthens coordination between subsidized employment through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, TANF, program, other Federal workforce development programs, and the Federal Work-Study program.

The goal of the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act is to help low-income individuals gain the experience and skills necessary for long-term success in the workforce and access to family-sustaining wages. Yet studies of the long-term effects on unemployment from short-term, subsidized employment programs demonstrate differing outcomes, which is why I commend my colleagues for including robust reporting and evaluation requirements in the underlying bill.

We already know that other efforts have clear long-term benefits. Adults who attain postsecondary credentials and degrees are much more likely to be employed and much less likely to rely on public assistance. For example, about 90 percent of young adults who earn a bachelor's degree are employed. The employment rate for those who don't complete high school is just 48 percent. Not surprisingly, the vast majority—approximately 93 percent—of TANF recipients did not attain education beyond high school.

Helping more low-income adults complete postsecondary credential programs and degrees is a proven strategy for reducing reliance on public assistance and promoting self-sufficient households. This is a bipartisan goal.

Our amendment advances this goal by helping to give more low-income parents high-quality work opportunities while enrolled in postsecondary programs. Currently, the Federal Work-Study program provides part-time jobs to students. Studies show that those students who are lucky enough to get a Federal Work-Study job have higher completion rates and are more likely to work in a position that aligns with their program of study.

Unfortunately, Federal Work-Study alone cannot meet the demand for connecting low-income students with valuable, work-based learning opportunities. In fact, only about 2 percent of community college students participate in Federal Work-Study.

The subsidized employment program authorized in the bill we are debating today could help address this unmet need and target additional support to low-income student parents, helping

them attain a credential or degree and vastly improving their long-term employment prospects.

Administering the subsidized employment program in conjunction with the Federal Work-Study program requires coordination among State agencies and higher education institutions. My amendment encourages this coordination, and I encourage Members to support it.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment, although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes. There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment. It requires States to coordinate efforts under this bill with other Federal programs designed to help low-income individuals obtain the necessary skills to enter employment and climb the economic ladder.

Our Federal welfare system is large, fragmented, and growing in cost. The nonpartisan Congressional Research Service estimates that we currently operate over 80 programs that provide food, housing, healthcare, job training, education, energy assistance, and cash to low-income Americans. Reducing bureaucracy and streamlining a State's administration of employment and training services to low-income Americans is a step in the right direction.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment as well as supporting the underlying bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chairman, a number of State programs leverage Federal Work-Study funds to help TANF recipients who are enrolled in community college programs meet work requirements and get real-world experience in jobs that reinforce what they are studying.

Additionally, the Government Accountability Office has recommended improving coordination between employment and training programs, and the Department of Health and Human Services guidelines on helping TANF recipients succeed in career pathways makes recommendations for using the Federal Work-Study program in conjunction with TANF to boost the attainment of industry-recognized credentials.

There is precedent and widespread support for improving the coordination of programs that help low-income individuals gain work experience to subsidize employment. Again, our amendment does not require States to devote funds from TANF-subsidized employment programs to low-income student parents, but it does ask States to consider how they are using subsidized employment—whether through TANF or Federal Work-Study—in concert to give more people the opportunity to earn a higher education degree or cre-

dential and, thereby, a significantly improved chance at finding a long-term, living-wage job.

Mr. Chairman, I ask my colleagues to support this commonsense amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, again, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment as well as the underlying bill.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chair, I am proud to support this amendment which would align the TANF program and the federal work study program.

TANF, or the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, was created to help struggling families become self sufficient.

We know that the best way to achieve this goal is to give people the resources they need to find quality jobs.

This amendment would allow states to align employment efforts by coordinating with schools to help more students access work-study opportunities.

And we know that these students are not the 18 year olds of decades past—they are older students with children, dependent parents, and more financial responsibilities.

Helping these students elevates entire families; helping these families elevates entire communities.

I hope we can come together to support this amendment and support more working Americans.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR.

KRISHNAMOORTHY

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 4 printed in House Report 115-187.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 5, line 9, before the semicolon, insert “and the percentage of such individuals whose employment is in an area that matches their previous training and work experience”.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of my bipartisan amendment. I would like to thank my good friend, Congressman LLOYD SMUCKER of Pennsylvania, for helping me to introduce this amendment.

Right now what is being taught in classes doesn't necessarily align with what is needed to get a job. Yesterday, the House passed a bipartisan bill unanimously that would make sure that there is stronger alignment and collaboration between career and tech-

nical education programs and the employers that will be hiring.

Our amendment would require that States report the percentage of subsidized individuals whose jobs match their previous experience. Incentivizing States that opt into this pilot program expands on yesterday's bill to ensure that resources are being used as efficiently as possible by guiding students towards the jobs they were trained for.

Mr. Chairman, I hope everybody will support passage of our amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment, although I am not opposed.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes. There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment. This amendment provides further information to ensure we have high-quality evaluations requiring States to measure how many recipients entered employment in the same field they received on-the-job training. The more we know about how these programs work and their return on our investments is important when we make decisions down the road.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support the amendment as well as the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for his support.

I urge all Members to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. DAVIDSON

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 5 printed in House Report 115-187.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer an amendment.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 5, line 21, strike “and”.

Page 5, line 25, strike the period and insert “; and”.

Page 5, after line 25, insert the following:

(F) specifies the number of eligible recipients who received a subsidy who concurrently received other Federal or State means-tested benefits during their subsidized employment.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentleman from Ohio



(Mr. DAVIDSON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer an amendment that, if enacted, would provide additional data on the performance and effectiveness of the programs created under H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act.

In particular, my amendment would require States to include in their annual reports to the Health and Human Services Department whether individuals who participated in this demonstration project still need additional forms of Federal or State assistance after the fact. The data point really shows whether they are truly independent of the safety net.

The most meaningful solution to poverty is a job. I believe the data point outlined in my amendment will further help Congress measure the performance of this program in the scope that should apply to all of our Nation's welfare programs: placing people into meaningful work and helping them and their families achieve self-sufficiency. We need this data to ensure the project is truly working.

When I worked in manufacturing, data was a vital component to solving problems. It showed me what worked best, what failed, and, most importantly, what needed to be changed and how to get to the root cause. The same science applies to solving problems here and to this program.

Too often we measure the success of our safety net programs based on dollars spent rather than effectiveness. Fixing our welfare system is a sentiment shared by both sides of the aisle. This is a bipartisan bill, and I believe this legislation is a great step forward.

Additionally, my office has been working on another bill, the Welfare BRAC Act, which would create a bipartisan commission to review the 90-plus means-tested programs that spent nearly \$850 billion a year. I hope one day to have a vote on that bill just as we are having one on this today.

We need more deeds and not just words. This bill is a great step forward to solving the problem. There is widespread agreement on both sides of the aisle that our safety net is not accomplishing all it needs to. If enacted, my amendment would help us here in Congress identify new methods to help our Nation's most vulnerable by getting them into the workplace.

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It is crucial that everyone has an equal opportunity to engage in our communities and contribute by earning financial independence through the dignity of work.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would require States to collect and report information on whether participants were receiving income-related assistance like health insurance; child care assistance; school lunch; or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, benefits; rental subsidies; or perhaps even the earned income tax credit.

The information the amendment requests is not relevant to what we are trying to learn from these demonstration projects, which is whether different approaches improve earnings and employment. Asking for it is an invasion of the privacy of the individuals, with no research benefit.

Collecting this information also seems burdensome for States, and would likely require them to ask participating employers to ask their employees inappropriate personal questions that they would not ask of any other employee.

Most importantly, I am concerned that requiring States to collect information on these important work supports would make some States think that they are supposed to discourage participants from accessing these supports.

Both research and common sense clearly tell us that access to supports like child care assistance, healthcare, and wage supplements that pay for transportation and other work expenses make it more likely that individuals will succeed in work. We should do nothing that might discourage States from providing these supports to help workers succeed. We should do nothing that might cause individuals to not make use of what is available to them.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I thank Mr. DAVIDSON for his efforts.

Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment. I hope that we can evaluate all of the programs that we have, coordinate among them, learn more about their effectiveness, and ultimately respect folks in need and do all we can that is appropriate to help lift themselves out of poverty.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this.

Sunlight brings truth. Truth will set you free. My hope is truth will set folks free from the trap that many people find in multigenerational poverty. We really, truly want to help solve the problem and get the information that will help us make our systems work effectively.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. KHANNA

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 6 printed in House Report 115-187.

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 6, line 4, after "project," insert "including an analysis of the project's effect on eligible recipients who received additional credentialing and training during their subsidized employment or participation in an apprenticeship or career pathways program,".

Page 7, line 10, insert at the end the following: "Such recommendations shall include recommendations on the effects of additional credentialing and training provided during subsidized employment or participation in an apprenticeship or career pathways program,".

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 2842, the Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act. I would like to thank the sponsors of the bill, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CURELO), and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS).

This bipartisan bill will assist low-income individuals by helping some of our most needy Americans to enter the workforce and maintain their employment. I believe one of the top priorities for Congress is to help our middle class by creating wealth in the middle class and to help the wages of the 50 percent of Americans who haven't had a wage raise since 1980.

For far too long, many Americans have seen falling incomes, which have left working families behind. My amendment is simple. It adds a requirements for the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to measure the effect that training and credentialing has on the recipients helped by this bill.

The public report and recommendations to Congress are already mandated by the original bill. This amendment will not affect the overall cost.

There is a body of research demonstrating that providing education and training to TANF recipients makes people more likely to obtain good jobs and increase their wages. They are more likely to stay employed.

The projects funded by this bill provide a great opportunity to add to this

research so we can know how to better assist TANF recipients and other unemployed workers.

I also want to thank the gentleman from Washington, (Ms. DELBENE), for her amendment to the bill during markup by the Committee on Ways and Means. That amendment requires that at least one of the employment demonstration projects must be an apprenticeship program.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support my amendment that seeks to add information that can be used to modernize our job training, credentialing, and apprenticeship program to match those seeking employment with our current job openings.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment, although I am not opposed.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes. There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment.

This amendment simply requires that the high-quality evaluations include measurements or how many recipients participated in an apprentice or career pathway program, and any credentials earned along the way.

Earn-and-learn models—those where an individual is getting on-the-job experience, earning a wage, and learning new occupational skills—are one of the best types of workforce development models the government can support. Apprenticeships, in particular, provide a combination of occupational on-the-job training and related instruction, helping to improve worker training and address critical skill gaps that align with the needs of industry.

We know that the best way out of poverty is through work, and apprenticeships provide a pathway to obtaining a successful career.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment as well as the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. KILMER

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 7 printed in House Report 115-187.

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 7, line 10, after the period, insert the following: "Such recommendations shall include recommendations on how to address employment-related challenges in rural areas and among members of federally recognized Indian tribes."

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 396, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I am here this morning to talk about the biggest thing on the minds of the folks that I represent: jobs.

I am glad that we are having a discussion today about how to help people land a job that they can be proud of.

Whether I am at a VFW or a county fair, in a lot of the parts of the region that I represent, this is the concern that I hear more than anything else.

Today's bill would help people who are looking for work acquire skills that help them land a bigger paycheck and a better career. I am glad to offer an amendment with a fellow member of the Bipartisan Working Group, Representative VALADAO, to make sure that the bill that is passed does some good for rural communities and for our tribal partners as well.

I know firsthand the challenges that small towns across America are facing. I grew up in a timber town in Washington State and watched some of the parents of my friends and some of my neighbors lose their jobs as mills shut down. These men and women are the hardworking Americans that want work, want training, and want careers. In short, they want a shot at a better life.

That is what this bill will do. I commend Mr. CURBELO and Mr. DAVIS for bringing it forward. With our amendment, we can make sure that shot is extended to all communities, no matter their ZIP Code.

Our amendment directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to take a look at how to address employment challenges in rural areas and those challenges facing members of federally recognized Native American Tribes. It directs the Secretary then to provide recommendations to Congress on what fixes actually work best.

When it comes to providing the training to get folks into quality jobs, we want to make sure that we are not flying blind. Our amendment makes sure that we have all the information we need to make the right decisions and give folks who want a quality job a shot at that.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment, although I am not opposed.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes. There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment.

The first hearing I held as chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources was on the geography of poverty. People often think of poverty only as they see it in cities, not realizing poverty today is more common than ever in suburban and even rural areas.

People also underestimate poverty in rural and remote areas, not knowing

the rates of poverty in these areas have, for decades, been higher than in urban areas.

This amendment ensures the Secretary takes into account rural areas and Indian Tribes when making recommendations on how to address employment-related challenges.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment as well as support the underlying bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for his support. And, again, I thank Representatives CURBELO and DAVIS for their work on the underlying bill, and the cooperation of Mr. VALADAO for working to address this challenge.

Mr. Chairman, I urge adoption of the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. MITCHELL). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER).

The amendment was agreed to.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in House Report 115-187 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 4 by Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY of Illinois.

Amendment No. 5 by Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. KRISHNAMOORTHY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 380, noes 32, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 320]

AYES—380

Abraham	Bass	Blum
Adams	Beatty	Blumenauer
Aderholt	Bera	Blunt Rochester
Aguilar	Bergman	Bonamici
Allen	Beyer	Bost
Amodel	Bilirakis	Boyle, Brendan
Arrington	Bishop (GA)	F.
Bacon	Bishop (MI)	Brady (PA)
Barletta	Black	Brady (TX)
Barragán	Blackburn	Brooks (IN)

Brown (MD) Gonzalez (TX)  
Brownley (CA) Goodlatte  
Buchanan Gottheimer  
Buck Gowdy  
Bucshon Granger  
Budd Graves (LA)  
Bustos Graves (MO)  
Butterfield Green, Al  
Byrne Green, Gene  
Calvert Griffith  
Capuano Grijalva  
Carbajal Grothman  
Cárdenas Guthrie  
Carson (IN) Gutiérrez  
Carter (GA) Hanabusa  
Carter (TX) Harper  
Carterwright Hartzler  
Castor (FL) Hastings  
Castro (TX) Heck  
Chabot Hensarling  
Chaffetz Herrera Beutler  
Cheney Hice, Jody B.  
Chu, Judy Higgins (LA)  
Cicilline Higgins (NY)  
Clark (MA) Hill  
Clarke (NY) Himes  
Clay Holding  
Cleaver Hollingsworth  
Clyburn Hoyer  
Coffman Hudson  
Cohen Huffman  
Cole Huizenga  
Collins (GA) Hultgren  
Collins (NY) Hunter  
Comer Hurd  
Comstock Issa  
Conaway Jackson Lee  
Connolly Jayapal  
Conyers Jeffries  
Cook Jenkins (KS)  
Cooper Jenkins (WV)  
Correa Johnson (GA)  
Costa Johnson (LA)  
Costello (PA) Johnson (OH)  
Courtney Johnson, E. B.  
Cramer Jordan  
Crawford Joyce (OH)  
Crist Kaptur  
Crowley Katko  
Cuellar Keating  
Culberson Kelly (IL)  
Curbelo (FL) Kelly (PA)  
Davidson Kennedy  
Davis (CA) Khanna  
Davis, Danny Kihuen  
Davis, Rodney Kildee  
DeFazio Kilmer  
DeGette Kind  
Delaney King (IA)  
DeLauro King (NY)  
DelBene Kinzinger  
Demings Knight  
Denham Krishnamoorthi  
Dent Kuster (NH)  
DeSantis Kustoff (TN)  
DeSaunier Labrador  
Deutch LaHood  
Diaz-Balart Lamborn  
Dingell Lance  
Doggett Langevin  
Donovan Larson (CT)  
Doyle, Michael Latta  
F. Lawrence  
Duffy Lawson (FL)  
Duncan (TN) Lee  
Dunn Levin  
Ellison Lewis (GA)  
Emmer Lewis (MN)  
Eshoo Lipinski  
Espallat LoBiondo  
Estes (KS) Loeb sack  
Estry (CT) Lofgren  
Evans Loudermilk  
Faso Love  
Ferguson Lowenthal  
Fitzpatrick Lowey  
Fleischmann Lucas  
Flores Luetkemeyer  
Fortenberry Lujan Grisham,  
Foster M.  
Foxx Lujan, Ben Ray  
Frankel (FL) Lynch  
Franks (AZ) MacArthur  
Frelinghuysen Maloney,  
Fudge Carolyn B.  
Gallo Maloney, Sean  
Garamendi Marino  
Gianforte Marshall  
Gibbs Mast

Matsui  
McCarthy  
McCauley  
McClintock  
McCollum  
McEachin  
McGovern  
McHenry  
McKinley  
McMorris  
Rodgers  
McNerney  
McSally  
Meadows  
Meehan  
Meeks  
Meng  
Mitchell  
Moolenaar  
Mooney (WV)  
Moore  
Moulton  
Mullin  
Murphy (FL)  
Murphy (PA)  
Nadler  
Neal  
Biggs  
Bishop (UT)  
Brat  
Brooks (AL)  
Burgess  
DesJarlais  
Bridenstine  
Cummings  
Engel  
Gabbard  
Garrett  
Gosar  
Johnson, Sam  
Pallone  
Palmer  
Panetta  
Pascarell  
Paulsen  
Payne  
Perlmutter  
Peters  
Peterson  
Pingree  
Pittenger  
Pocan  
Poliquin  
Polis  
Price (NC)  
Quigley  
Raskin  
Ratcliffe  
Reed  
Reichert  
Rice (NY)  
Rice (SC)  
Robby  
Roe (TN)  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rohrabacher  
Rokita  
Rooney, Francis  
Rooney, Thomas  
J.  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Rosen  
Roskam  
Ross  
Rothfus  
Rouzer  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce (CA)  
Ruiz  
Ruppersberger  
Rush  
Russell  
Rutherford  
Ryan (OH)  
Sánchez  
Sanford  
Sarbanes  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schneider  
Schrader  
Schweikert  
Scott (VA)  
Scott, Austin  
Scott, David  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sessions  
Sewell (AL)  
Shea-Porter  
Sherman  
Shimkus  
Shuster  
Simpson

Sinema  
Sires  
Slaughter  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Smucker  
Soto  
Stefanik  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Suozzi  
Swalwell (CA)  
Takano  
Taylor  
Tenney  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)

Thompson (PA)  
Thornberry  
Tipton  
Titus  
Tonko  
Torres  
Trott  
Tsongas  
Turner  
Upton  
Valadao  
Vargas  
Veasey  
Vela  
Velázquez  
Visclosky  
Wagner  
Walberg  
Walden  
Walker

Walorski  
Walters, Mimi  
Walz  
Waters, Maxine  
Watson Coleman  
Webster (FL)  
Welch  
Wenstrup  
Westerman  
Williams  
Wilson (FL)  
Wilson (SC)  
Womack  
Woodall  
Yarmuth  
Yoder  
Young (AK)  
Young (IA)  
Zeldin

## NOES—32

Amash  
Babin  
Banks (IN)  
Barr  
Barton  
Biggs  
Bishop (UT)  
Brat  
Brooks (AL)  
Burgess  
DesJarlais

Duncan (SC)  
Farenthold  
Gaetz  
Gallagher  
Gohmert  
Graves (GA)  
Harris  
Jones  
Kelly (MS)  
Marchant  
Massie

Messer  
Olson  
Palazzo  
Pearce  
Perry  
Poe (TX)  
Posey  
Weber (TX)  
Wittman  
Yoho

## NOT VOTING—19

Bridenstine  
Cummings  
Engel  
Gabbard  
Garrett  
Gosar  
Johnson, Sam

LaMalfa  
Larsen (WA)  
Lieu, Ted  
Long  
Napolitano  
Pelosi  
Renacci

Richmond  
Scalise  
Speier  
Tiberi  
Wasserman  
Schultz

□ 1042

Messrs. BURGESS, WITTMAN, POSEY, and PERRY changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. WOODALL, REED, ROKITA, and LAMBORN changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FERGUSON) having assumed the chair, Mr. MITCHELL, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2842) to provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to test the effectiveness of subsidized employment for TANF recipients, had come to no resolution thereon.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair wishes to reiterate the announcement of February 25, 2015, concerning floor practice.

Members should periodically rededicate themselves to the core principles of proper parliamentary practice that are so essential in maintaining order and deliberacy here in the House. The Chair wishes to emphasize these points:

Members should refrain from trafficking in the well when another, including the presiding officer, is addressing the House.

Members should wear appropriate business attire during all sittings of

the House, however brief their appearance on the floor may be.

Members must refrain from engaging in still photography or audio or video recording or streaming in the Chamber. Members violating this rule may be subject to fine.

Members should address their remarks in debate to the presiding officer and not to others in the second person or to some perceived viewing audience.

The Chair wishes to stress efforts to reduce voting times.

As a reminder, Members should attempt to come to the floor within the 15-minute period as prescribed by the first ringing of the bells. As a point of courtesy to each of your colleagues, voting within the allotted time would help with the maintenance of this institution. Members are further reminded that the policy is to not terminate the vote when a Member is in the well attempting to cast a vote but that other efforts to hold the vote open are not similarly protected.

Following these basic standards of practice will foster an atmosphere of mutual and institutional respect. It will ensure against personal confrontation among individual Members or between Members and the presiding officer. It will facilitate Members' comprehension of, and participation in, the business of the House. In sum, it will ensure the comity that elevates spirited deliberations above mere argument.

The Chair appreciates the attention of the Members to these matters.

## ACCELERATING INDIVIDUALS INTO THE WORKFORCE ACT

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to House Resolution 396 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2842.

Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MITCHELL) kindly resume the chair.

□ 1048

## IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2842) to provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to test the effectiveness of subsidized employment for TANF recipients, with Mr. MITCHELL (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, amendment No. 4 printed in the House Report 115-187 offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) had been disposed of.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. DAVIDSON

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON)

on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

#### RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 264, noes 147, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 321]

#### AYES—264

Abraham	Ferguson	Massie
Aderholt	Fitzpatrick	Mast
Allen	Fleischmann	McCarthy
Amodel	Flores	McCaul
Arrington	Fortenberry	McClintock
Babin	Fox	McHenry
Bacon	Franks (AZ)	McKinley
Banks (IN)	Frelinghuysen	McMorris
Barletta	Gianforte	Rodgers
Barr	Gibbs	McNerney
Barton	Goodlatte	McSally
Bera	Gottheimer	Meadows
Bergman	Gowdy	Meehan
Beyer	Granger	Messer
Biggs	Graves (GA)	Mitchell
Bilirakis	Graves (LA)	Moolenaar
Bishop (MI)	Graves (MO)	Mooney (WV)
Black	Green, Gene	Moulton
Blackburn	Griffith	Mullin
Blum	Grothman	Murphy (FL)
Bost	Guthrie	Murphy (PA)
Brady (TX)	Harper	Newhouse
Brat	Harris	Noem
Brooks (AL)	Hartzler	Nunes
Brooks (IN)	Hensarling	O'Halleran
Brownley (CA)	Herrera Beutler	O'Rourke
Buchanan	Hice, Jody B.	Olson
Buck	Higgins (LA)	Palazzo
Bucshon	Hill	Palmer
Budd	Himes	Panetta
Burgess	Holding	Paulsen
Bustos	Hollingsworth	Pearce
Byrne	Hudson	Perry
Calvert	Huizenga	Peters
Carter (GA)	Hultgren	Peterson
Carter (TX)	Hunter	Pittenger
Chabot	Hurd	Poe (TX)
Chaffetz	Issa	Poliquin
Cheney	Jenkins (KS)	Posey
Coffman	Jenkins (WV)	Ratcliffe
Cole	Johnson (LA)	Reed
Collins (GA)	Johnson (OH)	Reichert
Collins (NY)	Jones	Rice (SC)
Comer	Jordan	Roby
Comstock	Joyce (OH)	Roe (TN)
Conaway	Katko	Rogers (AL)
Cook	Kelly (MS)	Rogers (KY)
Cooper	Kelly (PA)	Rohrabacher
Costa	Kihuen	Rokita
Costello (PA)	Kilmer	Rooney, Francis
Cramer	Kind	Rooney, Thomas J.
Crawford	King (IA)	Ros-Lehtinen
Crist	King (NY)	Rosen
Crowley	Kinzinger	Roskam
Cuellar	Knight	Ross
Culberson	Kuster (NH)	Rothfus
Curbelo (FL)	Kustoff (TN)	Rouzer
Davidson	Labrador	Royce (CA)
Davis, Rodney	LaHood	Russell
Denham	Lamborn	Rutherford
Dent	Lance	Sanford
DeSantis	Latta	Sarbanes
DesJarlais	Lawson (FL)	Schneider
Diaz-Balart	Lewis (MN)	Schraeder
Donovan	Lipinski	Schweikert
Duffy	LoBiondo	Scott, Austin
Duncan (SC)	Loebach	Scott, David
Duncan (TN)	Loudermilk	Sensenbrenner
Dunn	Love	Sessions
Emmer	Lucas	Shea-Porter
Estes (KS)	Luetkemeyer	Shimkus
Eshoo	MacArthur	Shuster
Evans	Marchant	Simpson
Farenthold	Marino	Sinema
Faso	Marshall	

Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smucker  
Soto  
Stefanik  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Suozi  
Taylor  
Tenney  
Thompson (PA)  
Thornberry

Tipton  
Tonko  
Trott  
Turner  
Upton  
Valadao  
Vela  
Wagner  
Walberg  
Walden  
Walker  
Walorski  
Walters, Mimi  
Weber (TX)

Webster (FL)  
Wenstrup  
Westerman  
Williams  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman  
Womack  
Woodall  
Yoder  
Yoho  
Young (AK)  
Young (IA)  
Zeldin

#### NOES—147

Adams  
Aguilar  
Amash  
Barragán  
Bass  
Beatty  
Bishop (GA)  
Blumenauer  
Blunt Rochester  
Bonamici  
Boyle, Brendan F.  
Brady (PA)  
Brown (MD)  
Butterfield  
Capuano  
Carbajal  
Cárdenas  
Carson (IN)  
Cartwright  
Castor (FL)  
Castro (TX)  
Chu, Judy  
Cicilline  
Clark (MA)  
Clarke (NY)  
Clay  
Cleaver  
Clyburn  
Cohen  
Connolly  
Conyers  
Correa  
Courtney  
Davis (CA)  
Davis, Danny  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
Delaney  
DeLauro  
DelBene  
Demings  
DeSaulnier  
Deutsch  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Doyle, Michael F.  
Ellison  
Eshoo  
McGovern  
Español

Foster  
Frankel (FL)  
Fudge  
Gaetz  
Gallagher  
Gallego  
Garamendi  
Gohmert  
Gonzalez (TX)  
Green, Al  
Grijalva  
Gutiérrez  
Hanabusa  
Hastings  
Heck  
Higgins (NY)  
Hoyer  
Huffman  
Jackson Lee  
Jayapal  
Jeffries  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Kaptur  
Keating  
Kelly (IL)  
Kennedy  
Khanna  
Kildee  
Krishnamoorthi  
Langevin  
Larson (CT)  
Lawrence  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (GA)  
Lofgren  
Lowenthal  
Lowe  
Lujan Grisham, M.  
Luján, Ben Ray  
Lynch  
Velázquez  
Maloney, Carolyn B.  
Maloney, Sean  
Matsui  
McCollum  
McEachin  
McGovern  
Meeks

Meng  
Moore  
Nadler  
Nolan  
Norcross  
Pallone  
Pascarell  
Payne  
Perlmutter  
Pingree  
Pocan  
Polis  
Price (NC)  
Quigley  
Raskin  
Rice (NY)  
Richmond  
Roybal-Allard  
Ruiz  
Ruppersberger  
Rush  
Ryan (OH)  
Sánchez  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Scott (VA)  
Serrano  
Sewell (AL)  
Sherman  
Sires  
Slaughter  
Smith (WA)  
Swalwell (CA)  
Takano  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Titus  
Torres  
Tsongas  
Vargas  
Veasey  
Allen  
Amodel  
Arrington  
Bacon  
Banks (IN)  
Barletta  
Barr  
Barragán  
Barton  
Bass  
Beatty  
Bera  
Bergman  
Beyer  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (MI)  
Bishop (UT)  
Black  
Blackburn  
Blum  
Blumenauer  
Blunt Rochester  
Bonamici  
Bost  
Boyle, Brendan F.  
Brady (PA)  
Brady (TX)  
Brooks (IN)  
Brown (MD)  
Brownley (CA)  
Buchanan  
Buck  
Bucshon  
Burgess  
Bustos  
Butterfield  
Byrne  
Calvert  
Capuano

the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2842) to provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to test the effectiveness of subsidized employment for TANF recipients, and, pursuant to House Resolution 396, reported the bill back to the House with an amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment to the amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole?

If not, the question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The amendment was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 377, nays 34, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 322]

#### YEAS—377

Abraham	Carbajal	Delaney
Adams	Cárdenas	DeLauro
Aderholt	Carson (IN)	DelBene
Aguilar	Carter (GA)	Demings
Allen	Carter (TX)	Denham
Amodel	Cartwright	Dent
Arrington	Castor (FL)	DeSantis
Bacon	Castro (TX)	DeSaulnier
Banks (IN)	Chabot	DesJarlais
Barletta	Chaffetz	Deutsch
Barr	Cheney	Diaz-Balart
Barragán	Chu, Judy	Dingell
Barton	Cicilline	Donovan
Bass	Clark (MA)	Doyle, Michael F.
Beatty	Clay	Duffy
Bera	Cleaver	Duncan (SC)
Bergman	Clyburn	Duncan (TN)
Beyer	Coffman	Dunn
Bilirakis	Cohen	Ellison
Bishop (GA)	Cole	Emmer
Bishop (MI)	Collins (GA)	Eshoo
Bishop (UT)	Collins (NY)	Estes (KS)
Black	Comer	Esty (CT)
Blackburn	Comstock	Evans
Blum	Conaway	Farenthold
Blumenauer	Connolly	Faso
Blunt Rochester	Conyers	Ferguson
Bonamici	Cook	Fitzpatrick
Bost	Cooper	Fleischmann
Boyle, Brendan F.	Correa	Flores
Brady (PA)	Costa	Fortenberry
Brady (TX)	Costello (PA)	Foster
Brooks (IN)	Courtney	Fox
Brown (MD)	Cramer	Frankel (FL)
Brownley (CA)	Crawford	Franks (AZ)
Buchanan	Crist	Gibbs
Buck	Cuellar	Frelinghuysen
Bucshon	Culberson	Fudge
Burgess	Curbelo (FL)	Gaetz
Bustos	Davidson	Gallagher
Butterfield	Davis (CA)	Garamendi
Byrne	Davis, Danny	Gianforte
Calvert	Davis, Rodney	Gibbs
Capuano	DeFazio	Gonzalez (TX)
	DeGette	Goodlatte

□ 1053

Mr. NORCROSS changed his vote from "aye" to "no."

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. CARTER of Georgia). The question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. Under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MITCHELL) having assumed the chair, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on

Gottheimer	Luetkemeyer	Royce (CA)
Gowdy	Lujan Grisham,	Ruiz
Graves (GA)	M.	Ruppersberger
Graves (LA)	Lujan, Ben Ray	Rush
Graves (MO)	Lynch	Russell
Green, Al	MacArthur	Rutherford
Green, Gene	Marchant	Ryan (OH)
Griffith	Marino	Sánchez
Grijalva	Marshall	Sarbanes
Grothman	Mast	Schakowsky
Guthrie	Matsui	Schiff
Gutiérrez	McCarthy	Schneider
Hanabusa	McCaul	Schrader
Harper	McClintock	Schweikert
Harris	McCollum	Scott (VA)
Hartzler	McEachin	Scott, Austin
Hastings	McGovern	Scott, David
Heck	McHenry	Sensenbrenner
Hensarling	McKinley	Sessions
Herrera Beutler	McMorris	Sewell (AL)
Hice, Jody B.	Rodgers	Shea-Porter
Higgins (LA)	McNerney	Sherman
Hill	McSally	Shimkus
Himes	Meadows	Shuster
Holding	Meehan	Simpson
Hollingsworth	Messer	Sinema
Hoyer	Mitchell	Sires
Hudson	Moolenaar	Smith (MO)
Huffman	Mooney (WV)	Smith (NE)
Huizenga	Moore	Smith (NJ)
Hultgren	Moulton	Smith (TX)
Hunter	Mullin	Smith (WA)
Hurd	Murphy (FL)	Smucker
Issa	Murphy (PA)	Soto
Jackson Lee	Newhouse	Stefanik
Jayapal	Noem	Stewart
Jenkins (KS)	Nolan	Stivers
Jenkins (WV)	Norcross	Swalwell (CA)
Johnson (GA)	Nunes	Takano
Johnson (LA)	O'Halleran	Taylor
Johnson (OH)	O'Rourke	Tenney
Johnson, E. B.	Palazzo	Thompson (CA)
Jordan	Pallone	Thompson (MS)
Joyce (OH)	Palmer	Thompson (PA)
Kaptur	Panetta	Thornberry
Katko	Pascrell	Tipton
Keating	Paulsen	Torres
Kelly (IL)	Payne	Trott
Kelly (MS)	Pearce	Tsongas
Kelly (PA)	Perlmutter	Turner
Kennedy	Peters	Upton
Khanua	Peterson	Valadao
Kihuen	Pingree	Vargas
Kildee	Pittenger	Veasey
Kilmer	Pocan	Vela
Kind	Poe (TX)	Visclosky
King (IA)	Poliquin	Wagner
King (NY)	Polis	Walberg
Kinzinger	Posey	Walden
Knight	Price (NC)	Walker
Krishnamoorthi	Quigley	Walorski
Kuster (NH)	Raskin	Walters, Mimi
Kustoff (TN)	Ratcliffe	Walz
LaHood	Reed	Waters, Maxine
Lamborn	Reichert	Watson Coleman
Lance	Rice (SC)	Weber (TX)
Langevin	Richmond	Webster (FL)
Larson (CT)	Roby	Welch
Latta	Roe (TN)	Wenstrup
Lawrence	Rogers (AL)	Westerman
Lawson (FL)	Rogers (KY)	Williams
Lee	Rohrabacher	Wilson (FL)
Levin	Rokita	Wilson (SC)
Lewis (GA)	Rooney, Francis	Wittman
Lewis (MN)	Rooney, Thomas	Womack
Lipinski	J.	Woodall
LoBiondo	Ros-Lehtinen	Yarmuth
Loeback	Rosen	Yoder
Lofgren	Roskam	Young (AK)
Loudermilk	Ross	Young (IA)
Love	Rothfus	Zeldin
Lowenthal	Rouzer	
Lucas	Roybal-Allard	

## NAYS—34

Amash	Gohmert
Babin	Higgins (NY)
Biggs	Jeffries
Brat	Jones
Brooks (AL)	Labrador
Budd	Lowey
Clarke (NY)	Maloney
Crowley	Carolyn B.
Doggett	Maloney, Sean
Engel	Massie
Espallat	Meeks
Gallego	Meng

Ruiz	Ruppersberger
Rush	Russell
Rutherford	Ryan (OH)
Sánchez	Sarbanes
Schakowsky	Schiff
Schneider	Schrader
Schweikert	Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin	Scott, David
Sensenbrenner	Sessions
Sewell (AL)	Shea-Porter
Sherman	Shimkus
Shuster	Simpson
Sinema	Sires
Smith (MO)	Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)	Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)	Smucker
Soto	Stefanik
Stewart	Stivers
Swalwell (CA)	Takano
Taylor	Tenney
Thompson (CA)	Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)	Thornberry
Tipton	Torres
Trott	Tsongas
Turner	Upton
Valadao	Vargas
Veasey	Vela
Visclosky	Wagner
Walberg	Walden
Walker	Walorski
Walters, Mimi	Walz
Waters, Maxine	Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)	Webster (FL)
Welch	Wenstrup
Westerman	Williams
Wilson (FL)	Wilson (SC)
Wittman	Womack
Woodall	Yarmuth
Yoder	Young (AK)
Young (IA)	Zeldin

## NOT VOTING—20

Bridenstine	LaMalfa	Pelosi
Cummings	Larsen (WA)	Renacci
Gabbard	Lieu, Ted	Scalise
Garrett	Long	Speier
Gosar	Napolitano	Tiberi
Granger	Neal	Wasserman
Johnson, Sam	Olson	Schultz

□ 1101

Mr. BABIN changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 322 (passage of H.R. 2842), I did not cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on this vote.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I was absent during rollcall votes No. 320, No. 321, and No. 322 due to my spouse's health situation in California. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on the Krishnamoorthi Amendment. I would have also voted “nay” on the Davidson Amendment. I would have also voted “yea” on the Final Passage of H.R. 2842—Accelerating Individuals into the Workforce Act.

## ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017, TO MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2017

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday, June 26, 2017, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

## NORTH KOREA MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS AGGRESSIONS

(Mr. ROTHFUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, it has been a generation or two since the horrors of communism were routinely on the news and mentioned in our schools: people killed running for freedom from East to West Berlin, the Soviet Union's gulag archipelago designed to crush dissent and the human spirit, and Mao's brutal rule in Red China that killed millions.

This week, a new generation of Americans witnessed the barbarity of the evil of communism. I extend my condolences to the family and friends of Otto Warmbier, whose funeral was held yesterday.

Kim Jung Un and his North Korean thugs may believe Otto's torture and death somehow empowers them. They are wrong. President Reagan foretold that communism will end up on the ash heap of history, and that is where Kim is headed.

But Otto has a different legacy. One of Otto's friends told me his spirit could not be crushed and, unlike the communist thugs of North Korea, Otto's spirit will live on, especially in those who loved him.

Mr. Speaker, North Korea must be held accountable for Otto's death and other transgressions. Last month, the House passed the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act. The Senate should pass this legislation and get it to the President quickly so we can begin to put maximum pressure on this outlaw regime.

## RECOGNIZING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FERMI NATIONAL ACCELERATOR LABORATORY

(Mr. FOSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, which celebrated its 50th anniversary last week.

Built on the prairies of Illinois, under the leadership of its first director, Robert Wilson, this national lab performs cutting-edge research in physics to help us understand the fundamental properties of matter. It is also where I spent most of my career as a high energy particle physicist before I ran for Congress.

The discoveries made in Fermilab's first 50 years will remain in the science textbooks forever. Experiments at Fermilab discovered three of the fundamental components of matter: the bottom quark, the neutrino tau, and the top quark, the heaviest known form of matter.

Unfortunately, the Republican budget proposal of the Trump administration threatens the legacy of Fermilab and national labs and scientific facilities throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, scientific research is not like highway building that can turn on and off in any given fiscal year. Scientific teams and facilities that take generations to build can be wiped out in a single budget cycle by having their funding cut.

So, Mr. Speaker, I call upon you and your colleagues to show us a budget that will maintain our country's leadership in science and technology, because destroying our scientific facilities is no way to make America great again.

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COVERS MANY INDUSTRIES

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, yesterday this House unanimously approved the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, to give Americans who enter the workforce the skills they need to succeed.

I was proud to sponsor that bill with Congressman RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY. It will help all Americans across all sectors and industries because all education is career education.

As chairman of the Nutrition Subcommittee of the Committee on Agriculture, I want to talk about food service careers.

Earlier this spring, I had the opportunity to visit the DC Central Kitchen right here in our Nation's Capital. DC Central Kitchen feeds the most vulnerable among us, but it fights hunger differently: it offers skills-based education, empowerment, and career opportunities that allow people to finally be free from hunger and poverty.

The CEO there said, "You can't feed your way out of poverty," and I wholeheartedly agree. DC Central Kitchen feeds the hungry, but also teaches people the skills needed to find employment in the hospitality industry. That is a CTE program: helping people find jobs that pay living wages and obtain lasting careers.

Now, that is something we can all get behind.

#### RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE REVEREND NATHANIEL DIXON

(Mr. ESPAILLAT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Reverend Nathaniel Dixon. On Sunday, Reverend Dixon will be giving his last sermon at St. Stephen's United Methodist Church.

While this Sunday may be his last sermon, I have no doubt that the lives he has touched, parishioners, colleagues, neighbors, all of us, will continue to uphold the lessons he taught us and will remember the action he has taken over a long and hard-fought career.

Reverend Dixon is a true renaissance man whose life has always been committed to New York City. For 27 years, he was a music teacher and, later, an administrator, and also an executive director of the Saxrack Learning Center.

Old Satchmo, the great Louie Armstrong, once said: "Musicians don't retire; they just stop when there's no more music in them."

Reverend Dixon never stopped teaching music, and he has inculcated this love and passion into the lives of students and parishioners. "Music helps," he said, "because there is awe in them."

Thank you, Reverend Dixon, for your commitment and willingness to become a leader and a role model for many years to come in New York's 13th Congressional District.

We love you and wish you the very best.

#### HONORING ROCKY CARROLL, TEXAS BOOTMAKER

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in Texas, whether you are two-stepping, herding cattle, or sitting in the summer heat enjoying some barbecue, you will rarely find Texans without their boots. And, Mr. Speaker, the finest boots in Texas were made by Houston legend, Rocky Carroll.

This week, after a long and colorful life, Rocky died.

The moment I met Rocky, I was immediately struck by his swagger. He looked like an outlaw out of an old western movie. He was proud of the fact that he worked 25 years with the Harris County Sheriff's Department.

Through the course of his life, Rocky also handcrafted boots for seven Presidents, celebrities, the Queen, the Pope, and many others.

I once performed a small wedding ceremony for Rocky and his new bride, Judge Denise Collins. And right before the wedding started, in walked Rocky's friend, President George H.W. Bush. Rocky knew everybody.

And while the walls of his shop, which really looked like an old barn, were adorned with photos of famous people, most of his customers were regular folks like me.

Rocky Carroll was larger than life and uniquely Texan to the core. We will miss our dear friend, bootmaker for the Presidents, bootmaker for the stars, and bootmaker for regular folks.

And that is just the way it is.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF JEFFERY M. SANDERS

(Mr. CLEAVER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, sometimes this well feels like the well of sorrow, and such is the case today.

I rise to honor a true and selfless public servant whose life was tragically taken before his time. Mr. Jeffery Sanders, a lifelong resident of Mayview, Missouri, and a firefighter, was killed in the line of duty on Monday, June 19, 2017. I have decided that I will be praying through the weekend and next week for his family.

Mr. Jacob Hayward was a man who gave a great deal to his community. He was seriously injured also in the same heartbreaking accident.

Jeff was well known in the close-knit community of 200 residents, having been a farmer in Mayview all of his life. He and his wife, Connie, raised two wonderful children, who continue to live in Lafayette County in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District.

Mr. Sanders dedicated much of his time to Mayview and its Fire Protection District. He could always be counted on to make a fire call and help someone in need.

In all of his activities, Mr. Sanders demonstrated dedication and commitment to the greater good of others. He

was actively involved in the Mayview Lions Club, the Mayview Area 4-H Club, the Antique Tractor Club, and the Odessa FFA Advisory Board, along with his work as a volunteer firefighter with the Mayview Fire Protection District. He also spent time serving on the Mayview Special Road District.

Mr. Speaker, this family has given a great deal, and we owe a great deal to them.

#### CONGRATULATING THE DONEGAL WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM

(Mr. SMUCKER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Donegal women's softball team on their PIAA State softball title. They beat Cedar Cliff 9-7, but it wasn't an easy victory.

Donegal trailed 7-3 heading into the bottom of the fifth inning, but never gave up. They scored six runs that inning to take a 9-7 lead, and they never gave that up the rest of the game.

This team has been to the State tournament the last 4 years, but, obviously, this one was special. Donegal head coach Wayne Emenheiser said of the season: "This was our dream since we lost last year in the semifinals. We wanted to get back here. It was a magical season."

A victory like this is a display of years of dedication and hard work. So today I want to congratulate the Donegal players, coaches, and staff on this remarkable achievement and let them know how proud we are of them.

I would also like to recognize the families, students, faculty, and fans that supported them along the way.

□ 1115

#### SENATE REPUBLICANS SHUT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OUT OF AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE

(Mr. CARBAJAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the recently unveiled Senate healthcare repeal legislation. The Republicans have shut the American public out of their debate and, with this bill, they aim to shut them out of affordable healthcare, too.

This bill sets us on a dangerous path backwards, back to a time when cancer patients could be kept out of coverage or kicked off of their insurance because the cost of their care was too high, and to a time where pregnancy could be considered a preexisting condition.

Congress must work collaboratively to bring down insurance premium costs and work together toward insuring every American, but denying millions of people access to insurance by repealing protections for individuals with preexisting conditions, gutting Medicaid, and threatening the solvency of



the Medicare trust fund all in order to give the wealthiest Americans a tax cut is wrong.

I urge my colleagues in the Senate to reject this misguided proposal.

#### UNSEAL RECORDS INTO AGENT BRIAN TERRY'S DEATH

(Mr. BIGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, in December 2010, U.S. Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry was killed with a gun that was traced back to the Department of Justice's Operation Fast and Furious. His family awaits answers.

Agent Terry's family recently testified before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee that the Obama administration continually denied all efforts to release any additional information about his death. They are now calling on President Trump to finally unseal the records and expose the dirty secrets behind this tragic scandal.

It is shameful that the Trump administration has been repeatedly accused of collusion and coverups based on unsourced rumors, while little attention was given to the Obama administration's blatant efforts to cover up the truth into Agent Terry's murder.

Under Operation Fast and Furious, roughly 2,000 firearms were purposely sold to criminals, which were later smuggled into Mexico, and have been linked to multiple homicides.

The Obama administration stonewalled Congress, investigators, and Americans for years and, to this day, refuse to take responsibility for their mistake.

It is time for the truth. We have an opportunity to return transparency and trust to our government, and I fully support the Terry family's request for the records to be unsealed.

#### HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CHECHNYA

(Mr. PANETTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, during this Pride Month, I rise today to speak out about the human rights violations occurring in the Russian republic of Chechnya.

It has been reported that in that country, men are kidnapped, detained, tortured, and even murdered just because of their sexual orientation. Families have been shamed by these kidnappings and have resorted to taking their own sons' lives.

In April, I, along with 48 other Members of Congress, signed and sent a letter to Secretary of State Tillerson asking him to raise the issue of this horrible violence against innocent men with the Russian officials, but to date, neither Secretary Tillerson or President Trump or anybody else in the ad-

ministration have committed to taking action on this issue.

The United States must speak out about this atrocity, and Russia must investigate such human rights violations so that there is accountability for an end to these senseless crimes.

During this Pride Month, we here in the United States celebrate our equality. However, every month we must say and act for the men in Chechnya as we fight for equality across the globe.

#### THE CITIZENS OF PUERTO RICO HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR WILL TO JOIN OUR NATION

(Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, the American citizens of Puerto Rico overwhelmingly voted in favor of becoming the 51st State of our great Nation. This is the second time in the past 5 years where my constituents have expressed their will to join our Nation.

Soon I will introduce legislation to set forth the terms of admission for the new State of Puerto Rico.

Our people have, in war and peace, made countless contributions to our Nation. They have fought in every conflict since the Great War. Many have made the ultimate sacrifice, and when they do, their casket is flown back to this country draped in an American flag bearing the 50 stars, but no star that represents them.

It takes a special kind of patriotism to fight for a nation that does not treat you equally, a nation that is a champion of democracy and self-determination, yet denies those same principles to 3.4 million of its own citizens in Puerto Rico.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents have spoken, and they deserve Congress' response.

#### IMMIGRATION HERITAGE MONTH

(Mr. REICHERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, during Immigration Heritage Month, I want to recognize the great spirit and desire for a better life that lives within our Nation's immigrants today and those before them.

America's immigrants have started companies big and small, contributed to their local communities, and have been our friends, family, and neighbors. But our immigration system is broken. It is failing the many children who are brought to the United States outside of their own control.

That is why I have sponsored and co-sponsored the BRIDGE Act and the Recognizing America's Children Act to protect these children who only want to live the American Dream.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that we have to work together, we must work to-

gether to pass a long-term immigration reform bill that secures our borders, yes, but just as importantly, protects our children, protects the families and the workers who want nothing more than to be a part of this great country and live the American Dream.

#### CANCEL THE AUGUST RECESS

(Mr. GALLAGHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I stood before you in this very spot not long ago urging this Congress to do the work of the American people that the American people sent us here to do. Yet, 2 months later, not much has changed. Distrust in government is still at an all-time high, and it is not hard to see why. Our Federal debt continues to approach \$20 trillion. Our Tax Code remains broken and burdensome. Threats continue to rise abroad. And here at home, by the way, our veterans are still not getting the care they deserve despite the progress that we have made this week on that issue. From my perspective, this is unacceptable.

Despite the fact that Congress, by any metric we devise, is not doing the basic job the American people sent us here to do, in 7 weeks, we are going to adjourn on a month-long vacation without reforming the Tax Code or getting our appropriations done. And just 30 days after returning from the August recess, if we don't make some hard choices, the government may shut down, cutting our constituents from access to the programs they depend on for their livelihoods.

My message is simple: let's work through the August recess because in what other job would you grant yourself a month off if you hadn't gotten your work done?

I know we need to get back home to meet with our constituents, but more than anything else, I believe our constituents sent us here to do our job, to work together to fix problems, rather than punt them to the next generation.

So, please, let's stay here and let's do the work for the American people.

#### WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GALLAGHER).

#### CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act.

Not only is this bill critical to giving American workers the skills they need to lead in an increasingly competitive world, but also to making sure that our

career and technical education is in stride with the major advancements that have been made over the last decade.

As I travel across northeast Wisconsin, businessowners routinely tell me they are hiring, but can't find workers with the knowledge and skills necessary to do the jobs they are hiring for.

Passage of this bill helps close the skills gap and boost economic growth by equipping students with the skills they need to fill the in-demand and high-skilled jobs in our local economies.

Schools in Wisconsin's Eighth District are prepared to lead the way when it comes to closing our country's growing skills gap, and it is time that we give them the tools that they desperately need to do exactly that.

I am proud to cosponsor this important piece of bipartisan legislation. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this bill.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, Solomon, who was often noted as the wisest man in the world, said: "A soft answer turns away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger."

If you were to ask the average American citizen would they like their elected officials to come to Washington and to work together, they would all say: Of course. They should. That is what we elect them for.

Yet, often in our history, we see emotions override the mouth and we raise our voices, distrust builds, isolation results, we don't get to know each other, we don't get to work with one another. As we isolate, then a distrust builds, and with distrust, then we don't want to hear what either side has to say. Ultimately, when we can no longer exchange ideas with a deliberateness, then we fall short.

Solomon also said in Ecclesiastes: "Two are better than one, for they have a good reward for their labor, for if the one fall, the other will lift up," and "A three-fold cord is not quickly broken."

As we look at our mottoes and our institutions, we have a phrase: "Out of many, one."

That phrase is not: Out of one idea, let's create many.

It is just the opposite.

One thing that I learned in my time as a soldier in negotiating and dealing with people groups that literally could not agree, to the point that they were shelling and killing each other and each other's women and children in their villages as they burned, that even in situations like that, they could find some overlapping circles and some common ground in between.

The events of the past week are a reminder not just to Members of Congress, who oftentimes we do know each other, we do work with one another, we do serve on committees with one another. We take great pride in developing those relationships despite our differences, but we have an obligation,

because, as a constitutional representative republic, we are a reflection of the people that send us here.

It is important that the lawmakers that the American people send to Washington to do that work be those that are willing to accommodate, that are willing to assimilate the things that we agree on, because if we can't accommodate and we can't assimilate—as I have viewed in war-torn battlefields in several different places through a career as an infantry soldier, if you can no longer accommodate or be willing to assimilate certain agreed ideas, then you are left with the third choice, which is elimination.

The United States has never had that as its pretext. We got close once in a period from about 1820 to 1860. We have faced tough times before and come together. I would hope, Mr. Speaker, that not just our body, as we take and deem these responsibilities with a lot of conviction, but that the American people would take their responsibility to be mindful of the words of Solomon: "A soft answer turns away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger."

Our country is bigger than any of us. When we leave it, God willing, it will continue on. And the words that are said in this Chamber, although recorded, few read. As time passes and as we govern our lives and go about our business, we have to remember the very principles that brought us together as a nation and that I nearly gave my life for in defense.

So my hope is, as we move in the coming days and weeks, that we will work on the things where the circles overlap and we will not negotiate the nonnegotiables. If we just focus on those things, we will have more than enough work to do to actually get stuff done.

□ 1130

As a message to the American people: accommodate, listen, dialogue, be kind, and be patient. I have seen the worst thing that human beings can do to one another in my lifetime. I have watched friends die on a battlefield. I have had to take human life. I have seen horrible and horrific things that no human being should ever do. But we are not in that place. We live in freedom. We live in great enjoyment of prosperity where our ideas, our work—the sweat of our brow—can go, and we can put it to good use with great liberty. We have to tone it down.

We have to be willing to put others before ourselves and to listen. I pledge to do that as a Member, one of 435 here. I hope the American people will pledge to be as committed to the United States as we all must be if we are to secure the future for our children and grandchildren.

One of the things that we often all agree on is efficiency in government—to turn the tone and the topic of the conversation a little bit in a different direction. Efficiency in government—nothing makes us more sad and dis-

appointed than to see hard-earned tax dollars wasted by inefficiency.

In my home State of Oklahoma, for every million dollars the government wastes, we have to have 96 Oklahomans work all year long to pay all of their taxes so that we can waste it. I have often highlighted these wasteful measures in a series called "Waste Watch." We just released "Waste Watch" number 7 where we, sadly, highlight over \$50 billion worth of waste in just one item and a total of \$70 billion worth of waste on a single topic. That is something that we all care about and that we all want to pay with our taxes. That is education.

For years, Americans have been paying more and getting less from our educational system. Over the past decade, national high school student proficiency test scores in math have consistently met the minimum or were below. Reading scores for high school students, over the past 20 years, have been consistently substandard with a continued downward trend.

As test scores remain low, available funding for education is often wasted. The solution is not simply to spend more on education without correcting the habits where the waste can occur. We need to spend our dollars wisely by eliminating educational waste, as well as many other forms of waste in government, and push those dollars where they actually count—to our teachers and to our classrooms.

Additionally, we have to change the perception that more money spent always equals a better outcome. If that were the case, we would be the most efficient government on the planet.

It is my hope to create motivation to protect taxpayers and assist in educating America's children with the resources available. It is not enough to point out the problems. That is easy. Anyone can be a cynic and a critic. But we must work together to fix them so that we can make our Nation stronger. Education is vital to our children and to our future.

What are some of these things that we are talking about? Well, how about this one: researchers at the esteemed Harvard University spent \$3 million to study if people were able to smell an unpleasant odor in their urine after eating asparagus, also known as asparagus pee, according to the research. The research was funded through a research grant from the National Institutes of Health with your tax dollars.

The NIH uses Federal tax dollars to fund its research and received \$30 billion in 2016. The NIH's mission statement is "to enhance health, extend healthy lives, and reduce the burdens of illness and disability."

We would all agree with that. It is good to try to fix problems with disease, fight the common cold, cure cancer, and cure Alzheimer's, all of those things.

However, the NIH has conducted life-saving research in the past and has been given broad authority in deciding

how to spend that \$30 billion, and now we see waste.

The NIH funds research grants to universities, and much of the NIH's funding is well justified and leads to lifesaving research. Funding a study that doesn't even explore the possible health benefits of eating asparagus but only if there is an odor after eating it does not fit into any mission of the NIH. It is akin to the taxpayers' money being flushed down the toilet.

This particular study was the result of a grant provided by the NIH to Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Its purpose was to discover whether people could smell an asparagus effect. The researchers at Harvard received more than \$3 million in 2016, to survey 6,909 people of European-American descent to find if these people's urine smelled funny after eating asparagus, and the results were published in the *British Medical Journal*.

The results concluded that a "large proportion of individuals of European-American descent cannot smell" any effect. Sixty percent of the people surveyed, 58 percent of men and 62 percent of women, stated that they could not smell any urinary metabolites produced after asparagus consumption. However, Angus Chen, a reporter for the National Public Radio, stated in his report on this study that 4,161 people "were confused by the question." Do you think? We didn't need to waste \$3 million or have 260 Oklahomans work all year long to see if there was some effect in this madness.

Mr. Speaker, do you want to waste \$2 billion? Then give it to the Veterans Administration. In 2008, Congress passed the post-9/11 GI Bill updating the GI Bill from 1944, creating new benefits for servicemembers like myself, such as lengthening the expiration date following separation from the Armed Forces or retirement and offering living expenses as well as tuition. Another change made the benefits paid directly to the school of choice for the veteran—and here is where it began to go awry.

Initially, benefits from the GI Bill were paid directly to the servicemember for them to decide how and where to invest in their own education. This makes sense. They were responsible enough to defend our Republic; they can probably handle the funds—as they had for decades before. This change now comes with a litany of problems.

An audit conducted from 2013 to 2014, by the Office of Inspector General, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs found that a 13 percent error rate in payments by the Veterans Benefits Administration to the schools of choice for servicemembers had occurred.

To conduct this audit, the OIG looked into 650 payments for 225 students to 50 schools. They found \$128,000 in improper payments; and eight students who withdrew from their classes still received \$2,400 in stipends, and this money was never recovered for the taxpayer. Extrapolating these numbers

to the full class of students, the Office of Inspector General estimated that, over 5 years, the Veterans Benefits Administration would process about \$205 million in improper payments—and you see it continue to go on and waste \$2.2 billion.

We can do better. We must do better. We must do better by our veterans. We must do better so that we do not allow people's insatiable appetite for non-existent government funds to continue to be consumed. We are a nation that is \$20 trillion in debt.

How many of you, if you came and I asked you: Hey, could I have \$100?

And you said: sure.

And I said: okay, but great, it is going to cost you \$105 because I am going to charge you \$5 to take your hundred.

Wouldn't that be pretty much absurd and in your face? Yet that is exactly what we do with a very popular program called the Pell Grant Program. The Pell grant was created in the 1970s and has since become the basic mechanism for the Federal Government to assist lower income families with higher education costs. The legislation mandates that students receiving the funds must be admitted and enrolled in an institution of higher learning. Fine.

While the Pell grant provides great opportunity for students who might not otherwise be able to attend college—something that we all think is good—the waste comes from a stipulation within the law that requires the Federal Government to pay a fee to give away their money. The \$5 payment goes directly to participating schools and is intended to help offset the cost of the Pell grant. So we let institutions of higher learning charge a fee to accept your money, the taxpayers.

While it is true that there are administrative costs involved with servicing Pell grants, schools should accept these costs as a part of doing business as they would if no Pell grant were provided and it was just your hard-earned money. If you were supporting one of your children in college, those fees would be incorporated within that same \$1,000.

For the 2015 and 2016 year, the maximum Pell grant available to an undergraduate student was roughly \$5,775. Based on the latest reports from the U.S. Department of Education for the same year or the year prior, the Nation's taxpayers provided \$30 billion to 8 million students. The average Pell grant received by students was roughly \$3,800. That all sounds good. While \$5 does not seem significant, when you put that \$5 towards 8 million students, you can see where the problem is.

It is an unnecessary and arbitrary fee that should be disallowed, and we need to restore it so that colleges and institutions do not scoop something off of the top. But people say: well, we have our administrative costs. We have overhead. We have our infrastructure. We have all of these things that we have to do.

Yes, and that is why we have allowed, for decades, the tax-exempt endowments so that as the endowments accrue wealth and they grow, they use those resources to sustain the infrastructure on the university.

We are \$20 trillion in debt. It would be great if we could not pay our bills to go to our next-door neighbor and say: Hey, I am a little short on my electric bill, can you help me?

Or: I need help on my house payment this month. Let me just get it from you.

Our neighbors would not take kindly to that. Yet we are allowing these institutions that have the endowed wealth and that have all of the ability to do the infrastructure. Yet what happens? They continue to waste money with administrative fees that only have increased by 300 percent since 1976.

Here is another one for you: How many of you would donate to a charity that had a 52 percent administrative overhead? No takers? I didn't think so. Yet that is exactly what you do when you have the National Science Foundation put forth research grants that were designed to help people in their health and fighting disease and many other things. The average fee that universities and institutions charge back to the Federal Government for these research grants is 52 percent. That borders on the immoral.

A practice in higher education grant making that is not widely known or understood by the American public is this practice of charging indirect cost as a part of a grant. So, for example, \$1 million that is coming to a university for research—we are all excited about that, it helps our communities—did you know that that university, in turn, will scoop, on average, 52 percent off of the top?

The typical grant has direct costs, and we all understand that. As they put forth their budget, they will list it with such things as researchers' salaries—fine—travel associated with research—understood. But beyond that, universities are able to claim, under our insane laws, that additional funds in the form of indirect costs are needed for infrastructure of the institution, and it is our responsibility, as taxpayers, to support that. Never mind that tax-free endowments were designed specifically for that purpose and already exist that they could use. But they never touch that wealth. They never touch that accrued wealth. They never touch that accrued interest.

The Office of Management and Budget defines indirect costs as expenses an organization incurs indirectly—and they get to define what that is. What does it translate to? Well, rather than pick on Harvard, let's pick on the Big 12, a region I come from. We will start with the University of Oklahoma.

□ 1145

Charging the government for indirect costs is expensive and, unfortunately, a

common practice among institutions of higher learning.

Here are the indirect costs for the schools in the Big 12. I am sure they are not the only ones. This is a nationwide epidemic, to the tune of \$55 billion. That is billion with a B. Even in Washington, D.C., that is real money.

The University of Oklahoma adds a 55 percent surcharge to its research on campus; Oklahoma State University adds 45 percent, and a 54 percent surcharge for instruction grant projects.

The University of Texas, 56 percent. We have a winner.

Texas Tech, 49 percent; Texas Christian, 54 percent; Baylor, 38 percent. They are a little more economical, but it is still nearly 40 percent of waste.

The University of Kansas charges a surcharge of 51.5 percent; Kansas State, 52 percent; West Virginia, 50 percent; Iowa State, 52 percent, meeting the median average.

Higher education officials rarely talk about it. When confronted with it, they will, with straight faces and degrees of education, argue that this waste is absolutely essential for them to continue.

A recent George Washington University student newspaper article revealed a higher education official's thoughts about indirect costs when he overtly referred to them as—you have got it—subsidies. He let it slip. Maybe Freudian, we don't know.

The George Washington Hatchet quoted Leo Chalupa, vice president for research, that "research is bringing in money to the university."

You think? It is \$55 billion worth.

However, Chalupa is not just referring to the direct dollars used to conduct research. We would all agree with needed research, but what we don't agree with is this indirect—more than half—plundering of what the dollars were designed and intended to do.

Let's switch to something that we should do to try to incentivize people to improve their educational experience. Sound confusing? It is—to the tune of \$7 billion was wasted.

Few Americans will argue that the Nation's schools do not need improvement. We would all say that they do. When one looks at test scores or compares American outcomes with other nations, it is easy to see that many of our K-12 schools are languishing.

One recent report evaluated testing outcomes against other industrialized nations, and America's students finished 17th out of 34—not something to be proud of. This led President Obama to direct more money at the issue, like so many previous Presidents before him, rather than looking at the underlying systemic concerns.

It is not the amount of money; it is the habit that is being created. While increasing funding can be a component of a solution, it is often not the most vital of the components. Without proper policy driving the expenditures, the money spent can become one more example of how inefficient Federal intervention in anything can be.

President Obama's Department of Education directed \$7 billion to a program known as the School Improvement Grants program, to which the Department of Energy named the 21st Century Community Learning Centers. The funds were directed to States with instructions that the funds should be directed to the poorest performing schools.

It sounds agreeable.

The measures used to identify the underperforming schools were graduation rates and readiness scores in reading and mathematics. Then-Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said, in 2009: "We could really move the needle, lift the bottom, and change the lives of tens of millions of underserved children"—something that all of us would agree on.

The School Improvement Grant program built on the race to the top efforts undertaken during the Bush administration, and the Obama administration efforts doubled the funds for the program.

The Department of Education described the purpose of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers in the following way: "This program supports the creation of community learning centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools."

Again, all of these sound laudable. However, according to a report released by the Department of Energy just a few days before the end of President Obama's administration, test scores, graduation rates, and college enrollment were no different in schools that had received these funds from School Improvement Grants as those that did not—\$7 billion gone.

A Washington Post article detailing the report quoted Andy Smarick, a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute: "Think of what all that money could have been spent on instead." Mr. Smarick is correct: \$7 billion in taxpayer funds were spent without any oversight or careful oversight whatsoever.

Congress must reexamine the role of the Federal Government in education because what is being done now does not work—billions upon billions of dollars.

How about if we can't solve it through \$7 billion wasted in trying to make people feel good about education and then that will improve their schools, how about we get them moving so we can fight obesity and cut down on diabetes, disease, and other things. That sounds good. Let's talk about that.

In 2010, with the assistance of First Lady Michelle Obama, the Let's Move! project began, with the hope of reducing childhood obesity in America. This is a real problem in Oklahoma. We have one of the largest obesity rates of all the States.

The program, costing as much as \$1 billion per year, focused heavily on im-

pressing upon children the need for proper exercise as well as bringing healthier food options into schools.

At first glance, it appears that the Let's Move! program produced results. In 2008, U.S. childhood obesity rates nationally were around 16.2 percent. During the next 3 years, 18 States saw those rates begin a modest decline, falling in some States by 5 percent.

This reduction could be attributed to the effectiveness of the program or a cultural change in how people view health choices and how they view their eating habits. But it should be noted, regardless, that this decline was already begun by the time the Let's Move! program was even enacted. Overall, and sadly, in the latest statistics, U.S. childhood obesity rates did not decline and, in fact, have risen to 17.2 percent in the last statistical year.

There are many, many things that we can continue to go on and talk about in waste. Let's end with this one.

Want people to eat healthy, something that sounds good? How many of you would be influenced by people dressing up like Fruit of the Loom, in outfits like green beans, grapes, tomatoes, and going to college campuses and then just seeing the sight of these people wearing these costumes say: You know, I think I need to eat some grapes or vegetables?

That is what this program did. It wasted \$14.7 million of your money. It is called the Get Fruved project.

I am not making it up.

Not only did this program waste \$14.7 million; it is still being funded by your tax dollars. The U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded \$4.9 million a year for this initiative, led by students and researchers at four American universities, which are the University of Tennessee, South Dakota, West Virginia, and the University of Florida.

The Fruved website reports that its goal is:

Our students are the best teachers. This is why Fruved has sophomores and juniors at each school peer-monitoring first-year students, helping them live a healthier life during their first year of college.

That includes dressing up in these outfits. That is \$14.7 million.

There are things that the Federal Government has a responsibility for and there are things that it does not. Abraham Lincoln said it best in a paraphrase where he said: The things that we can do ourselves, the government ought not to interfere. The things that we cannot do collectively, the government might have a role.

We know the government may have a role in education, certainly, with education funding and helping our facilities and our institutions. However, we do not need to waste \$70 billion. Imagine what that could do.

We will never change this idea if the American people do not demand of us to stop such madness and waste. When people come with straight faces and Ph.D.s and argue for dressing up in outfits, we have to push back on that and

say: \$20 trillion in debt, a weakened military, roads and bridges that are falling down and an infrastructure that needs improvement, modernization in our skies for the Federal Aviation Administration.

There are so many areas that the government truly does have a function and role. We will never get to it with asparagus urine studies and dressing up as fruits and vegetables.

Mr. Speaker, my hope is that all of us as Americans can find those overlapping circles and fight this absolute absurdity of waste in government, be responsible with American tax dollars, and sustain our great Republic for the future of our children.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### PAKISTAN IS PLAYING THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FASO). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 30 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when our forces invaded Afghanistan in 2001, the goal was simple: remove the terrorist group, the Taliban government that sheltered the plotters of the 9/11 attacks on America, and destroy al-Qaida, a terrorist group. This was a NATO operation.

A little history is in order.

The United States was attacked. The member nations of NATO agreed that this was an attack on one nation, and NATO agreed to retaliate to the terrorist attack under article 5 of the NATO agreement. Article 5 has been talked about recently in the press.

So these 28 nations, NATO, went into Afghanistan, a haven for terrorists who sought to attack and kill Americans. That was 16 years ago. This is the longest war in American history, and yet it is still going on.

Let's examine how all of this is taking place and center on one nation, Pakistan, and their role in all of this.

The Taliban, since that attack, has waged an insurgency in Afghanistan, a neighbor to Pakistan, and destabilized the country, creating a perfect condition for terrorists to exploit in Afghanistan and spread that terrorist activity to other parts of the world.

The Taliban and al-Qaida have launched many of their attacks in Afghanistan from their neighbor, Pakistan. Recently, a Taliban sneak attack killed more than 160 Afghan soldiers, prompting the defense minister and the army chief of staff to resign.

The Taliban, a terrorist group, doesn't just stage attacks. They seize territory. The Special Inspector General for Afghan Reconstruction said, in January, that 172 Afghan districts are controlled, influenced, and contested by the Taliban.

Al-Qaida has a long history and loyalty to the Taliban—two terrorist groups working together. Osama bin

Laden swore his allegiance to the Taliban's leader, Mullah Omar, even before the 9/11 attack on the United States.

When bin Laden was killed in Pakistan, Ayman al-Zawahiri renewed that oath and cemented ties between al-Qaida and the Taliban. Wherever the Taliban is, you will see that al-Qaida is not far behind.

Since 2010, the United States incorrectly claimed that al-Qaida had just a little, small presence in the country, limited to only 50 or 100 fighters. Well, we know now that is absolutely incorrect.

Then, in 2015, the shocking U.S. raid in Afghanistan uncovered a massive al-Qaida training camp for terrorists, rounding up over 150 al-Qaida terrorist activity individuals. This was more fighters in one raid than the U.S. claimed existed in the entire country.

By the end of last year, U.S. officials announced that 250 al-Qaida terrorists were killed or captured in 2016.

The point here is that United States intelligence has been wrong about the activity of terrorists in Pakistan and in Afghanistan, but we are getting it right now.

Along with al-Qaida in Afghanistan, we have another terrorist group—I should have brought a chart to list all of these—the Haqqani Network.

Who are these folks?

It is another terrorist group linked to al-Qaida and the Taliban. The Haqqani Network is responsible for more American deaths in the region than any of the other terrorist groups that I have already mentioned.

□ 1200

The Haqqani Network attacks inside Afghanistan, and they have been directly traced back to Pakistan. All roads to terror lead to Pakistan.

In fact, in 2011, Admiral Mike Mullen, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, testified to the Senate, "the Haqqani Network acts as a veritable arm of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence agency." What is that? That is the military arm of the Pakistan Government working with terrorist groups throughout the world.

The truth is, Pakistan has ties to about every terrorist group in Afghanistan, and we know that the Taliban terrorist group is based out of Pakistan.

It came as no surprise that when the U.S. drone strike killed the leader of the Taliban in 2016, guess where he was? He was in Pakistan hiding out.

There is a laundry list of evidence of Pakistan's support for terrorist groups, and I think a little more history is in order because this activity by Pakistan has been going on for years and has been below the radar. So let's just list some of the counts of the indictment against Pakistan and their terrorist activity.

Let's go back to 1980. Pakistan actively assisted countries like North Korea, Iran, and Libya in their efforts to build a nuclear weapon.

Now, where are we today?

Iran, the number one state sponsor of terrorism in the world, got some of its nuclear ability from Pakistan. North Korea, on the other side of the globe, guess what, they are developing nuclear capability, and we can trace some of their roots for their science back to Pakistan.

Since 1980, Pakistan has provided a safe haven and support, as I mentioned, for the Haqqani Network. The Haqqani Network operates many places in the world, including Lebanon, a threat to Israel.

Since the 1980s, Pakistan has hosted multiple madrassas that indoctrinate thousands of Pakistani young who join radical groups. That is a nice way of saying terrorist groups.

One Pakistan madrassa, which receives millions of dollars in state funding, has so many prominent terrorists in its alumni that it has the name of the University of Jihad.

I will continue. Since 1990, Pakistan has supported terrorist groups in Kashmir, like the Lashkar-e-Taiba, called the LeT, and other terrorist groups in its proxy war with India. These groups have carried out attacks inside India, such as the 2001 attack against the Indian Parliament.

Since the 1990s, Pakistan has allowed those terrorist groups like the LeT to openly fundraise in the country of Pakistan. Beginning in the 1990s, Pakistan provided training, advisers, intelligence, and material support for the Afghan Taliban, a specific terrorist group that operates in Afghanistan based in Pakistan.

Pakistan had forged the alliance between the al-Qaida and the Taliban before 9/11, and Hamid Gul, the former head of Pakistan's ISI, is called the father of the Taliban.

Pakistani nuclear scientists met with senior al-Qaida—this is a terrorist group—leadership in 1998, to discuss the terrorist group's desire to acquire nuclear technology.

In 1998, several Pakistani officers were killed in an al-Qaida training camp by the United States. Well, what were they doing there? They were training the al-Qaida in terrorist activities. This was a retaliation by the U.S. for the Africa Embassy bombings.

In 2001, Pakistan ISI helped revive the Afghan Taliban after it was defeated by the United States in the Northern Alliance. While Pakistan is fighting the Pakistani Taliban, it allows the Afghan Taliban, or what it refers to as the good Taliban, to operate freely in its territory.

Let me try to explain this. There is the Pakistani Taliban. It operates in Pakistan. The Pakistan Government goes after those people because they are causing crimes in Pakistan. But there is the Afghan Taliban that operates out of Pakistan that is supported by ISI and works in Afghanistan to kill NATO forces, including Americans. Pakistan says: oh, we are after terrorists. We are going after them. They are

only going after those terrorists that operate in their country against Pakistanis, not terrorist groups that operate in other parts of the world against Americans.

After the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan in 2001, Osama bin Laden and many senior al-Qaida leaders fled to Pakistan. Many of them are still there. Pakistan facilitated arms purchases and foreign fighter flows for al-Qaida as the war continued.

Since 2004, eight major terrorist plots against Western countries were planned in Pakistan.

In 2008, the GAO—that is the folks who take care of our money, or at least try to track it—found that the Pakistani Government may have falsified claimed costs for providing support to the United States-led military operations. What does that mean?

We give to the Pakistan Government to help their military supposedly go after terrorists, and they give us back vouchers to say: well, this is what we did. Well, our government went through these vouchers and found out that Pakistan lied about this. They were asking for money for an activity that never occurred. So they tried to cheat the American public on these reimbursements. And there is more.

In November 2008, LeT conducted the Mumbai attack in India that killed more than 160 people with Pakistani assistance. Remember, LeT is a terrorist group.

In 2009, a Taliban leader, who had begun peace negotiations with the Afghan Government to stop the killing and the war, was arrested by Pakistan authorities for negotiating a peace talk because Pakistan did not want and does not want peace in Afghanistan.

In 2010, Pakistani intelligence is believed to have leaked the identity of an American CIA intelligence chief based in Pakistan. Of course, he had to flee the country.

In 2010, Pakistan closed the NATO supply route in Afghanistan for one week in response to NATO's helicopter strike that killed three Pakistani soldiers.

Documents leaked in 2010 revealed direct meetings between ISI and the Taliban to organize and orchestrate attacks on American soldiers in Afghanistan. That was in 2010.

I will continue. The terrorist perpetrator of the 2010 attempted car bombings in Times Square, that is in the United States, was known to have undergone weapons training in Pakistan.

In 2011, Osama bin Laden, we all know who he was, the number one terrorist in world history, well, he was found and killed in Abbottabad outside of Pakistan's version of West Point. In other words, you have a military installation, you have Osama bin Laden hiding in his big old home there, and the Pakistanis had been hiding him out. He was found there, Americans went and took him out, didn't tell the Pakistani Government because they would have moved him again.

We have evidence that Pakistan supports terrorism. What happened was, Pakistan scrambled American-made jets to go after the Americans who took out the Taliban. Fortunately, the Americans were able to get away and they were not attacked by the Pakistani Government.

To show how supportive Pakistan is, one of our helicopters, you may remember, had stealth on one of its rotors. Well, it crashed there, and they turned that evidence over to the Chinese and let them take whatever evidence they wanted to show the stealth in that helicopter.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask you how much time I have left.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 17 minutes remaining in his Special Order.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, thank you.

In 2011, Pakistan jailed Dr. Afridi, who helped the United States track down Osama bin Laden, and he is still in jail.

So Pakistan claims that they are a help to the U.S. in tracking down terrorism in the world, but they are not. The evidence shows the difference. Whose side is Pakistan really on?

After the 2011 raid to kill Osama bin Laden, Pakistan, as I said, invited the Chinese to inspect the wreckage on the stealth helicopter that the U.S. forces left behind. If people are allies of the U.S., they don't turn over technology to China.

Once again in 2011, Pakistan ISI poisoned CIA Chief Mark Kelton following the Osama bin Laden raid.

In 2011, Pakistan shelling killed 42 Afghanistan civilians. Pakistan is notorious for its blasphemy laws which are used to persecute numerous minorities, including Christians. Asia Bibi, a Pakistan Christian mother of five, was sentenced to death for blasphemy in 2011.

Pakistan launched counterterrorism raids in 2014 into the Federally Administered Tribal Areas, yet turned a blind eye to the Haqqani Network and the Afghanistan Taliban operatives in the area.

In September of 2016, Pakistani terrorists attacked an Indian military base in Kashmir, killing 17 Indian soldiers. Indian officials say the terrorists were from a group backed by the Pakistani ISI and were using weapons with Pakistani markings.

In 2017, Pakistani cross-border shelling forced hundreds of Afghanistan villagers to flee their homes and further strained relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Well, no kidding.

Let me give you some other evidence, Mr. Speaker, and let me make this clear. The issue here is not the people of Pakistan. The issue is not Americans of Pakistani descent. Our quarrel and our issue is not with those folks. I represent a lot of Pakistani Americans. Good folks. Hardworking individuals.

The issue is with the United States' relationship with the Government of

Pakistan that is playing the United States. Recently, before the United Nations Security Council, H.E. Mahmoud Saikal, Ambassador, Permanent Representative from Afghanistan spoke to the U.N. He has an excellent speech. The speech is Afghanistan's relationship with Pakistan.

I am not going to read his entire speech, but I do want to make a couple of comments from his point of view about Pakistan and their terrorist activity.

He says: "In recent months, dozens of terrorist attacks across Afghanistan have claimed scores of innocent lives. In January, three simultaneous terrorist attacks in Kabul, Kandahar, and Helmand provinces killed and maimed over 160, including six UAE diplomats. In February, the Supreme Court, our symbol of justice, was attacked, causing numerous fatalities. Last week, two separate attacks in the heart of Kabul killed many civilians. Finally, just two days ago, Afghanistan's largest hospital was attacked, leaving over 140 killed and wounded, many of whom were doctors, nurses, and patients. The Taliban"—terrorist group—"have claimed responsibility for most of these attacks, but regardless of whose names are being labeled on these attacks, our own investigations have clearly established that they were generally plotted beyond our frontiers," namely, in Pakistan.

I include in the RECORD the entire speech of the Ambassador to the U.N.

#### UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

H.E. Mahmoud Saikal, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the United Nations, March 10, 2017, New York)

Thank you, Mr. President. Let me congratulate the United Kingdom on its leadership of the Council this month. I thank the Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, for presenting his first report on the situation in Afghanistan. Also, allow me to thank the SRSG, Ambassador Tadamichi Yamamoto, and Afghanistan's Independent Human Rights Commissioner, Dr. Sima Samar, for their briefings.

Given the severity of the situation in my country, I would like to dedicate my statement today to the challenging security situation, hidden agendas, the peace process and the ever-increasing necessity for regional and global cooperation.

Mr. President, in recent months, dozens of terrorist attacks across Afghanistan have claimed scores of innocent lives. In January, three simultaneous terrorist attacks in Kabul, Kandahar, and Helmand provinces killed and maimed over 160, including six UAE diplomats. In February, the Supreme Court, our symbol of justice, was attacked, causing numerous fatalities. Last week, two separate attacks in the heart of Kabul killed many civilians. Finally, just two days ago Afghanistan's largest hospital was attacked, leaving over 140 killed and wounded, many of whom were doctors, nurses, and patients. The Taliban have claimed responsibility for most of these attacks, but regardless of whose names are being labeled on these attacks, our own investigations have clearly established that they were generally plotted beyond our frontiers, on the other side of the Durand Line. This, Mr. President, is the fundamental factor which needs to be addressed.



The UN Security Council issued prompt statements condemning these attacks in strongest terms, for which we are thankful. The statements underlined—and I quote: “the need to bring perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism to justice”. It also urged “all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, to cooperate actively with the Afghan authorities in this regard.” This is indeed what Afghanistan has been asking for many years. My Government and people would like to know why, after countless terrorist atrocities and specific Security Council statements condemning them, we are still witness to impunity for perpetrators and orchestrators of endless violence?

Mr. President, let me be very clear. The conflict in our country is not homegrown, as some desperately and deceptively try to portray. On the contrary, it is the nexus of illicit narcotics, violent extremism, and state sponsorship of terrorism with regional dimensions and global consequences. Tragically, it has morphed into an undeclared war by a neighboring state that has for many years, and still continues to coordinate, facilitate, and orchestrate violence through proxy forces and more than 20 terrorist networks. These groups benefit from a full-fledged external infrastructure to keep Afghanistan off-balance for motives that are inconsistent with our desire to live in a peaceful and prospering region.

In earlier statements to this Council, we have emphasized, time and again, on Pakistani actions that sustain terrorist activities in our country. Today, let me quote leading Pakistani officials themselves. General Pervez Musharraf, who led Pakistan for eight years as President, proudly commented in a 2015 interview with *The Guardian* newspaper that “Pakistan’s Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) had given birth to the Taliban to counter Indian action against Pakistan”. Last year, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Pakistan Prime Minister’s Adviser on Foreign Affairs, went on record to say that Taliban leaders reside in Pakistan and that they have influence over them. A couple of weeks ago, Mr. Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, former ambassador of Pakistan to the US, Russia, China, and India and UN SRSG to Iraq and Sudan, wrote in the *Herald Magazine* of Pakistan: “after the Soviet defeat and withdrawal, we (wittingly or unwittingly) unleashed a ruinous civil war and imposed a barbaric and medieval Taliban upon the hapless Afghan people.” His words are but confirmation of the truth that “Pakistan talks one policy, but walks the other”.

Mr. Husain Haqqani, another former Ambassador of Pakistan to the US and Sri Lanka, categorizes in clear terms, in a *NYT* 2013 article, the links between Pakistan’s state apparatus and the Taliban over time, and mentions in the context of peace talks that “the Taliban and their Pakistani mentors have hardly changed their arguments or their tendency to fudge facts”. These quotes and admissions that I just read were not “rhetoric from Kabul” or “blame game” as often claimed by a known member state. This was Pakistan talking!

Mr. President, against this backdrop, in February, a series of unfortunate terrorist attacks in Pakistan killed dozens and wounded many more innocent men, women, and children. As is the case, Afghans always share the pain and anguish of our Pakistani brothers and sisters. However, the Government of Pakistan, immediately and without any regard for an investigative process or clear facts, blamed Afghanistan for the attacks and resorted to increased breaches of our territorial integrity, the closing of the

main border crossings, blockading trade and transit, and harassing our nationals traveling to or living in their country. Such measures constitute a clear violation of principles of WTO and the rights of land locked countries, including their access to sea.

From January till today, we recorded at least 59 instances of violations of Afghan territory by Pakistan military forces, including three violations of our air space, over 1375 cross-frontier artillery shellings that caused dozens of casualties, displacement of 450 families in the middle of cold winter in our eastern provinces, burning of our forests, illegal construction of infrastructure near the frontier region, and hostile maneuvering of tanks and heavy weaponry.

Mr. POE of Texas. I will just make one more comment on the speech. The Ambassador says: “Pakistan talks one policy, but walks the other.”

I will continue. The World Muhajir Congress has written a letter to the United States Congress. Who are these folks? Well, they represent the views and interests of the Muhajirs. They are descendants of Muslims who migrated from India to Pakistan at the time of the partition of India in 1947.

□ 1215

They write a letter, and the title of their letter is: “World Muhajir Congress request U.S. Congress to cut off military aid to Pakistan.”

They go into detail talking about the terrorist activity of the Government of Pakistan, and not only in Pakistan, but in borders across the world. They “request Trump administration and the U.S. Congress to cut off military aid to Pakistan. Pakistan army and intelligence agency ISI is mainly using this military aid”—American military aid—“to kill innocent Muhajirs, Baloch, and Pashtoons. The double game of Pakistan’s security establishment with U.S. administration must come to an end, which has put lives of U.S. and NATO soldiers in danger in Afghanistan.”

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the letter.

[From World Muhajir Congress, June 15, 2017]  
WORLD MUHAJIR CONGRESS REQUEST US CONGRESS TO CUT OFF MILITARY AID TO PAKISTAN

World Muhajir Congress represents the views and interests of Muhajirs—descendants of those Muslims who migrated from India to Pakistan at the time of the Partition of India in 1947 at appropriate international forums.

Indeed, our forefathers had created Pakistan as a homeland for Muslims in India primarily to safeguards their political and economic interests. However, their idea of Pakistan envisaged a secular state where other religious minorities would be guaranteed equal rights and complete religious freedom. The founder of Pakistan Mohammad Ali Jinnah—known as Quaid e Azam—left no doubts about his vision for Pakistan when he chose a number of non-Muslims in the first Cabinet for Pakistan. In his address to the First Constituent Assembly of Pakistan, Mr Jinnah made his views abundantly clear when he said, “in course of time Hindus would cease to be Hindus and Muslims would cease to be Muslims, not in the religious sense, because that is the personal faith of each individual, but in the political sense as citizens of the State.”

Unfortunately, the British Raj had left behind a huge Indian army at the time of Partition that was mainly comprised of Punjabi Muslims. This Punjabi Army soon took control of every major institution in Pakistan and never let the true democracy flourish. Protecting the interests of Punjabis has been the primary mission of this Army since the creation of Pakistan, even if it had to at the cost of national interests. Denial of basic constitutional rights to majority Bengali population and subsequent disintegration of Pakistan’s Bengali-majority East Pakistan is just one example.

In the last few decades, Pakistan’s Punjabi-dominated security establishment has blatantly used religion, Islam, as its major tool to perpetuate its domination over other ethnic groups in Pakistan, Muhajirs, Balochs and Pashtoons in particular. The Army itself has gradually become highly radicalized and seems obsessed with the idea of dominating the entire region. The most alarming trend in the last three decades, however, has been the creation and blatant use of ‘religious proxies’ by Pakistan Army to promote its sinister agenda of Punjabi dominance over Pakistan as well as the region.

Jihadi terrorist outfits created by Pakistan Army have caused havoc in the last three decades both inside and outside Pakistan. Even though hundreds of thousands of Pakistanis have died as a result of attacks carried out by these ruthless proxies of Pakistan’s security establishment, the targets of these terrorist outfits have never been confined to Pakistan and pretty much every country in the region has suffered at the hands of these terror groups.

Whether it is the world’s “most wanted” man Osama bin Laden or the chief of Taliban Mullah Omar; whether it is al-Qaeda’s ideological founder Ayman al-Zawahiri or TTP Amir Mullah Mansoor Akhtar or 9/11 mastermind Khalid Shaikh Mohammad, they all have lived and freely operated from Pakistan. It is not even remotely possible that such notorious mass murderers could have lived and operated from Pakistani soil without the overt or covert support from ISI. In fact, thugs of every fanatic religious outfit are still freely operating in Pakistan, particularly in Karachi, very often under the overt protection of Paramilitary Rangers. We have video evidence confirming that militants of banned extremist religious outfits are allowed to freely collect donations in Karachi to wage “Jihad against America.”

The region as well as the world has suffered enough due to the mindless policies and treachery of Pakistan’s Punjabi-dominated security establishment. In fact, ethnic minorities of Pakistan have been the biggest victim of Pakistan Army and its intelligence agencies’ ruthless pro-Punjabi policies. Over 20 thousand Muhajirs have been killed by Pakistan’s state agencies since 1992 alone. Two federal governments in Pakistan were deposed on the charges of extrajudicial killings of Muhajirs in Karachi but none of the culprits was ever punished. Tens of thousands of Balochs have been killed by Pakistan’s security agencies in the country’s largest Balochistan province. Hundreds of ethnic Pashtoons too have either been killed and injured or made homeless by Pakistan Army in the last few years under the garb of security operations in the country’s northern areas.

Pakistan Army and ISI are actively silencing every sane and secular voice in Pakistan and are supporting, arming and training every jihadi terrorist outfit under the sun. In recent days, General Janjua, the former Crops Commander of Balochistan, now the country’s security czar, has facilitated legislation that now allows graduates of religious

seminaries (Madrassahs) to receive Commission in Pakistan Army. The previous Director General of ISI (now the head of Pakistan's National Defense University) General Rizwan Akhtar has even proposed to 'incorporate militants belonging to banned extremist religious outfits into paramilitary forces.'

The region is burning due to the highly unprofessional and irresponsible policies and acts of Pakistan's military establishment and ISI. The entire world is suffering. As the British Prime Minister Mrs. Theresa May said following the most recent terrorist attack in London "enough is enough." It is about time for the world to act against this madness and put its foot down.

World Muhajir Congress sincerely request Trump Administration and US Congress to cut off military aid to Pakistan. Pakistan Army and intelligence agency ISI is mainly using this military aid to kill innocent Muhajirs, Baloch and Pashtoons. The double game of Pakistan's security establishment with US administration must come to an end which has put lives of US and NATO soldiers in danger in Afghanistan.

Mr. POE of Texas. So what does all this mean?

I have given 20 or 30 enumerated counts of an indictment against Pakistan, alleging them of supporting terrorism in the world.

What can we do about it?

Pakistan is not an ally of the United States. But the United States, every year, gives millions of dollars to Pakistan. Congress has even brought this up before, has tried to cut some of that money off. It has passed the House, but it has never passed and become law. And we continue to give them money.

The United States does not, and should not, continue to give Pakistan money because the money we give them goes to ISI, and that money goes to support terrorist activity in Afghanistan that kills Americans.

Why are we doing this?

But we continue to do it, for some reason that I think is absurd.

So the first thing we need to do is cut off the aid to Pakistan. We don't need to pay them to kill us; they will support killing Americans on their own. Cut off the aid.

The second thing we do is to label Pakistan a state sponsor of terrorism. That is what they are: a state sponsor of terrorism. Congress needs to label them and make that designation so they suffer the consequences for their terrorist mischief throughout the world.

And the third thing we do is we need to remove and revoke their major non-NATO ally status. That is a fancy word for: because Pakistan is a major non-NATO ally, they get certain benefits, militarily, that other countries don't get.

Revoke that. Quit giving them military aid. Quit giving them money. Designate them as a state sponsor of terrorism, and remove the major non-NATO ally status against Pakistan. There needs to be consequences for this long history, that most Americans are not aware of, where Pakistan says one thing and, like the ambassador said, does something else; and those con-

sequences need to come down to get attention.

The longest war in American history continues today, and it is a war supposedly against terrorism. But Afghanistan still is a hotbed because of what takes place and supported from Pakistan. The Afghan Government knows it, we know it, and the Pakistan Government knows it.

So there must be consequences. I think Pakistan is found guilty of supporting terrorism, and there should be action by the United States immediately to do these three things.

And that is just the way it is.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I have to say that it is a privilege and it is good for the House and good for America when Judge TED POE is on the floor making a case. He was a great judge, a great prosecutor before that, and we will always need his voice making a case here on the floor, especially the kind of strong case he was just making. And I want to follow up with that.

There was a story yesterday, June 22, by Kristina Wong. It says:

"James Comey may have misled Senators on May 3, when he testified to the Senate Judiciary Committee that he had never been an anonymous source in news reports related to the Russia investigation.

"By that time, he had already leaked several private conversations he had with President Trump to his friend Benjamin Wittes, editor-in-chief of the blog Lawfare and former editorial writer for The Washington Post."

Mr. Speaker, I am sure you will recall, as we see every day, evidence that The Washington Post does not just despise Donald Trump, they are actually malicious in their reporting. President Trump, as a public figure, would normally have a tough time making a case as a public figure for libel or slander because you have to prove malice. The Washington Post has proved repeatedly they are not interested in fairness or anything resembling balance. They can't stand Donald J. Trump, and they are out to try to get him in a malicious fashion.

So when anybody, especially somebody with the FBI, leaks anything to people that may have it end up in The Washington Post, they, indeed, themselves become part of the malice for our President.

The article says:

"Wittes wrote in a piece on May 18, only 9 days after Comey was fired, that the former FBI Director had shared those conversations 'over the previous few months.' He wrote:

"Comey never told me the details of the dinner meeting; I don't think I

even knew that there had been a meeting over dinner until I learned it from the Times story. But he did tell me in general terms that early on, Trump had 'asked for loyalty' and that Comey had promised him only honesty. He also told me that Trump was perceptibly uncomfortable with this answer."

Now, let me insert here because obviously Mr. Comey does not understand what loyalty means and why a President of the United States would ask for loyalty from the Director of the FBI. But what loyalty means from a Director of the FBI is: Mr. President, I will be loyal to the administration. I will not go out and leak things to the media and I will not go out and stab you in the back every chance I have, even though I have these friends that hate your guts. And I know when I leak things or share things to people that can't stand the President, it is going to hurt him and it is going to be disloyal.

That is what loyalty is. It is outrageous for someone to try to make an obstruction case out of a President asking for loyalty.

Look at what the Obama administration did. They prosecuted more people that they alleged were leakers than all other administrations put together. They were aggressive in prosecuting disloyalty.

Donald Trump, on the other hand, as President of the United States, wasn't threatening to prosecute the way the Obama administration obviously had done. And he didn't try to make an example of everybody by having them prosecuted if they leaked anything. Otherwise, Comey would be standing before a judge answering charges right now; and maybe that should come later.

All he was asking for is: I need you to promise me loyalty.

And the very question of a President just asking for loyalty ended up being a source of evidence that Mueller—not Mueller. That is another case altogether. There is plenty of evidence about him—that Comey is probably the most disloyal FBI Director since J. Edgar Hoover was taping Presidents himself and having them watched and spied on.

So it is amazing, as smart as James Comey is—I have questioned him a number of times, so I know how smart he is. But as smart as he is, he couldn't figure out that loyalty would mean you don't run—try to make your President look bad after a simple meeting where the President just asked: Would you be loyal? I am not asking for the Moon. I am not asking for anything outrageous. I am simply asking: Would you please be loyal?

And even as President Trump was, apparently, asking for loyalty, this disloyal, dishonest Director of the FBI was already turning wheels in his head: How can I hurt this President? I know a reporter that hates Trump, who worked for the Trump-hating Washington Post. Even though he is not there now, he will know how to help me hurt Trump.

I mean, even as the President is asking for loyalty, that is what he is getting in the mind of the FBI Director.

So is it any mystery when we look back at the case history we have talked about here on the floor about how Comey manipulated John Ashcroft into recusing himself so Comey could push his own dear friend and godfather of his child, Patrick Fitzgerald, into being special counsel to go after the Bush administration?

Clearly, Comey and Fitzgerald were hoping to nail Karl Rove's and Dick Cheney's hide to the wall. That is what they were after.

And how do we know?

Because on day one—well, of course, the fact that Comey would push the godfather of his child into that position tells you all you need to know, but there is plenty more.

They both knew that Richard Armitage had leaked Valerie Plame's identity as a CIA agent. And they knew that there was no need for a special counsel or a special investigation. Yet they spent millions of dollars and man-hours trying to get beyond that and find some way to nail somebody they didn't like.

You would call that dishonesty or disloyalty because honesty would have had Comey and his dear friend and godfather of his child immediately going public on day one.

This would be honesty, to go forward and say: We know that the godfather of my child here, Patrick Fitzgerald, was appointed to find out who leaked information about Valerie Plame and her dishonest husband, Joseph Wilson, who lied to the CIA and lied to Congress, but we still need to know.

And guess what. We already know on day one who leaked it. It was Richard Armitage. There is no need to squander taxpayer dollars and there is no need for the government to pay massive amounts of money to Patrick Fitzgerald to do this investigation.

□ 1230

We are honest individuals. We are coming forward, and, yeah, maybe it wasn't all that honest for me to put my dear close friend, Fitzgerald, in this position, but I am going to be honest now. We don't need this investigation.

But that is not what they did. They were disloyal and dishonest to the American people, to the Bush administration, and to justice. They asked for expanded jurisdiction, made it seem like they were on the trail of something big.

No, they weren't on the trail of anything big. They had nothing. They wanted to try to get somebody prosecuted, and that way they could try to justify the massive amount of expenditures for nothing, for no good reason, that they were about to go through.

Eventually, they prosecuted Scooter Libby for allegedly being inconsistent with something he said—same thing they went after Martha Stewart for.

There was no insider trading that Martha Stewart engaged in. And I

know she is not a fan of Republicans—seems like a very nice person when I talked to her—but she was treated grossly unfairly. There was no insider trading. So they keep talking to her until they find they think she said something inconsistent so they could get a conviction, get a scalp under their belt, figuratively speaking, and claim they had done some great good. Comey was underneath, behind the scenes in that as well.

So it is amazing to me how anybody could try to be accusatory of someone, a President that said: Can you please promise me you will be loyal?

He didn't ask for anything illegal, nothing unethical, but apparently—you know, I didn't know Donald Trump. I supported TED CRUZ for over a year for President. But I have come to understand, this man has amazing instincts with people, amazing business acumen, figures out when something makes sense and something doesn't make sense.

One of the other Members of Congress just this morning was saying: You know, I never realized until I had seen the President in person, the man really has a big heart.

Okay. It was kind of surprising to some folks. But you get the inkling of it the more you are around him. And you see the way he treats kids, and we saw the way he treats children. You know, we saw the way he was so good to all kids. It didn't matter—he didn't care if they were Democrats' kids or Republicans' kids.

But I do recall, 8 years ago, one of my friends from Texas had a daughter, had her little book and pen, saw kids lined up getting an autograph from President Obama. So she ran over to get an autograph, and she came back in tears because she said when he got to her, he said, "I am not signing yours," and walked away. Her parents assured her it was nothing personal. He just obviously had some kind of emergency.

But then later on, before the congressional picnic was over, she saw other children lined up getting an autograph. She ran, got to the end of the line, and once again, when President Obama got to her, he said, "I told you, I am not signing yours." It took a long time to get over that.

But a lot of the people that saw the way President Obama treated some kids—not all of them, but some—saw the way President Trump didn't care anything about their background, what party their parents supported. He was just a gracious guy, obviously showed a big heart for kids.

So it would be understandable that somebody in business, doing multi-million-dollar deals, would need to know people were going to be loyal. And I have come to know enough about Donald Trump and his intuition about people he is dealing with, if he asks someone to be loyal and that person hedges their bets, said, well, I will be honest—I haven't asked him, but I am willing to bet when James Comey re-

fused to say he would be loyal but said he would be honest, I would be willing to bet you Donald Trump knew immediately this man is not going to be loyal or honest, and that is exactly what has happened.

James Comey has been both disloyal to his country, to the FBI, and to the President he was serving. He admitted leaking information. And some of us believe that if President Trump had not tweeted out, making reference to potential tapes of their conversations, that the disloyal, dishonest former Director of the FBI would probably not have been as honest as he was about some other things that were said.

But for anyone in the media to make some kind of big deal, potential obstruction of justice charge, just bringing up "I need you to be loyal; tell me you will be loyal" is absolutely outrageous.

I would expect every President, surely, if they were a good President, at one time or another needed to ask for a pledge of loyalty, not that you are going to lie, not that you are going to commit a crime, but you are not going to run out and leak stuff more than once the way James Comey did. You are going to be loyal to me. And if there is a problem, you come to me. You don't go leak it to your leftwing friends.

And also being loyal, I would think, would include that, if you believe there is a need for an independent counsel, a special counsel, and that you are a critical witness, that being loyal and being honest would—and being ethical would require that you not look forward to having one of your best friends in the world, Bob Mueller, being the special counsel.

My friends, my very dear friends, JIM JORDAN, MARK MEADOWS, JODY HICE—I have an article from yesterday. I have been talking about this for a week or so with different people, but we do need an independent counsel. We need a special counsel. And courts have made clear, Congress cannot appoint an independent counsel. It is an executive branch function. It is a violation of the separation of powers.

It has been made very clear: Congress can appropriate for independent counsel, they can make laws that create an office of independent counsel or a special prosecutor, they can do all those things, but they cannot, Congress cannot appoint an independent prosecutor, a special counsel. That is an executive branch function, and everyone in the executive branch derives their power, any that they have, from and through the President of the United States.

We know, there is no question about it, President Barack Hussein Obama regularly and intentionally obstructed justice, but we know that for a President to obstruct justice the way President Obama did was legal. He has the power to legally obstruct justice a number of ways, whether it is at the very end, just an outright pardon, or whether it is a dictation of policies the

way President Obama did: We are not going to go after and prosecute this group of people that have come in and committed crimes from other countries.

Some of us felt like it was terrible judgment, but President Obama had the legal authority to obstruct justice in directing the Justice Department not to pursue and prosecute certain groups of people or even individuals. He could pardon them outright before or after investigation. The President has that power. So does President Trump.

But as my friends point out in this article, Mr. Comey misled the American people in the early weeks of the Trump administration by furthering the perception that President Trump was under investigation when, in fact, he was not. He, again, did this willfully and intentionally, and, I would add, he did it disloyally and dishonestly.

They point out that Comey recently admitted that, after being fired from the FBI, he had a friend leak an internal FBI document to *The New York Times* detailing a conversation Comey had with President Trump. Comey testified under oath that he had ordered the leak to help create public momentum for the appointment of a special counsel, which we now know is Comey's mentor, predecessor, dear friend, Robert Mueller.

Unless anyone be confused—and I have even heard our great Speaker of the House say: Yeah, well, you know, the fact is his credentials are impeccable. We trust him.

Well, anybody who looks into Mueller's situation deeply enough will not say that his credentials are impeccable. He served honorably, heroically in Vietnam, but as FBI Director, he set a policy in place that would run people out of the FBI that had years of service and experience as supervisors. One article pointed out, he had run off thousands and thousands of years of experience.

I would submit it is because his egotistical narcissism would not allow him to have anybody that knew more than he did so they could question or offer suggestions contrary to what Director Mueller wanted. That is why he cost the FBI millions of dollars. And because of his poor leadership, his purging of the FBI training materials so that all these new people, after he ran off the experienced people that knew what radical Islam was—they had been trained to recognize it—ran them off, had younger people in there who were not allowed to learn what radical Islam was, so when the Orlando shooter or Tsarnaev or any of these others that were on the radar were investigated by Mueller's trained FBI, they didn't know what they were looking for. Because of the poor training—it wasn't intentional by Mueller that they would end up costing people their lives, but that is what happened.

An article points out: "On May 7, 2014, the House of Representatives passed a resolution calling for a special

counsel to investigate the IRS targeting of conservatives for their political beliefs. Comey and Attorney General Eric Holder blocked the appointment. This despite the fact that the lead investigator they assigned to the case, Barbara Bosserman, was a max-out contributor to President Obama's reelection campaign.

"This is the type of unequal justice the Americans despise. No special counsel in the IRS targeting investigation. No special counsel for the Clinton email investigation. But if it's about protecting Comey's reputation and hurting President Trump, then of course there has to be a special counsel."

"Throughout 2015 and 2016 there were calls from Congress for a special counsel in the Clinton email scandal."

I mean, for heaven's sakes, when you have someone go out and destroy known evidence that has been subpoenaed with a hammer, now that is illegal obstruction of justice.

But, no, Comey didn't want that investigated. Oh, no, his dear friend Hillary Clinton, the dear couple that was so close to Loretta Lynch that she would order him to misrepresent what the FBI was doing, that she would get on a plane knowing he is the spouse of somebody they are supposed to be looking at prosecuting, that there is plenty of evidence to show she violated the law many times, criminal law many times, oh, no. But this Justice Department refused, even after it was revealed that Attorney General Loretta Lynch met privately with Bill Clinton less than a week before the FBI interviewed Hillary Clinton.

□ 1245

No special counsel was established, even allowed, or even recommended, even after some unusual Justice Department immunity deals, the deals the Justice Department made with Comey there as Director when he, apparently, was a big enough shot he could do his job and Loretta Lynch's; say, I'm not going to let anybody—what he said was no good prosecutor, in essence, would prosecute this case.

That was a lie, but he went before the public to say it to help his friends, the Clintons or, rather, better friends of Loretta Lynch and the President.

Boy, if President Trump had ever gotten the loyalty from James Comey that President Obama got, in numerous cases, undeservedly, people would be recognizing prior criminal activity for what it was and is.

Anyway, in one of the hearings, Mueller was asked about this incredible, horrendous activity of persecuting conservative organizations, refusing to allow them to form because they could go against President Obama in the next election. The Obama administration clearly used the IRS as one of its most effective campaign operative groups, and it worked. They were able, in 2012, to prevent conservative groups from forming and from coming after Presi-

dent Obama for problems he had created.

But with all the national furor over the IRS, Mr. Mueller was supposed to be so fair, so impartial. He is asked: Okay. Well, we're told we don't need a special counsel because you, the FBI, are all over this. You don't need any special prosecutor. You've got this under control. Who is the lead agent?

He couldn't answer the question.

He is asked: Okay. Well, how many agents have been assigned to the case?

Mueller could not answer that question.

He is asked: Have any victims been interviewed?

The answer again was: I don't know.

The reason was Mueller is not objective. He is not fair and balanced. He despises this President, like his and Comey's friends at *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, and elite circles. They have shown they are and have been disloyal to the President. They have been unjust to this President.

And Mueller, I mean, going back to when William Jefferson was being investigated, I haven't seen the articles in many years, but I do recall, because we were paying attention, when Mueller had a congressional office searched without having—there are many times Members of Congress have potentially probable cause they committed a crime, and the way it was always handled, for over 200 years, you go to the Speaker of the House, because things in a Member of Congress' office—like, at that time, nobody should have come into my office, even with a warrant from the FBI, and been able to get material that said what FBI agents were giving me information about the terrible administration in the FBI.

The only way we can have a balance of power and the only way we can have oversight is if the FBI has no right to come in and find out who the whistleblowers are, because they do come after them. We have seen that over and over.

But Mueller was out for blood. They get a search warrant. Forget 200 years of law. We are not going through the Speaker so they can preserve things that are privileged that the FBI shouldn't get. Always in the past—there have been many people prosecuted with things that came from their office, as I understood it.

I was in on one of the meetings between the Attorney General's lawyers, the House lawyers, and the FBI. They said: You know, many times we have given you—when you show us what it is, we make sure what is privileged stays privileged and give you the evidence that lets you prosecute.

But Mueller went straight there, as a smack at Congress: You better not have oversight of me, or I will come after you.

And when he was questioned about this issue that Congress was raising, his response was: Maybe it's time I appointed 400 agents to investigate Congress.

He was threatening Congress.

This is mean-spirited. This is an unfair, unjust man. And there is only one answer because he leaked out, "I am investigating the President for obstruction of justice." Now if the President fires him, oh, it will be another Saturday night massacre.

So the answer is that the President has all the authority to appoint special counsel. He has got to appoint somebody to investigate Mueller, his chummy buddy Comey, their chummy buddy Loretta Lynch, and the Hillary Clinton and Bill Clinton couple so we can finally find out truth, honesty, and loyalty in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, June 23, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN: I write to inform you that I hereby resign from the office of U.S. Representative, effective at 10:00 AM Eastern Time on June 30, 2017. It has been a tremendous honor and privilege to serve the people of Utah as a Member of Congress. I thank you for your leadership as Speaker and look forward to working with you in my capacity as a private citizen to continue to find ways to improve our great Nation.

Sincerely,

JASON E. CHAFFETZ,  
U.S. Representative,  
Utah Third Congressional District.

MAY 18, 2017.

Hon. GARY R. HERBERT,  
Governor, State of Utah,  
Salt Lake City, UT.

DEAR GOVERNOR HERBERT: I write to inform you in advance of my intent to resign from the office of U.S. Representative at the close of business on June 30, 2017. It has been a tremendous honor and privilege to serve the people of Utah as a Member of Congress. I look forward to working with you and others as a private citizen to continue to find ways to improve our remarkable State and Nation.

Sincerely,

JASON E CHAFFETZ,  
U.S. Representative,  
Utah Third Congressional District.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. LAMALFA (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of attending a wedding.

Ms. GABBARD (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, June 26, 2017, at noon for morning-hour debate.

#### OATH FOR ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Under clause 13 of rule XXIII, the following Member executed the oath for access to classified information:

Greg Gianforte

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1787. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting reports entitled "2017 Report to Congress on Sustainable Ranges", pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 113 note; Public Law 107-314, 366(a)(5); (116 Stat. 2522); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1788. A letter from the Chairman, Appraisal Subcommittee, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting the 2016 Annual Report of the Appraisal Subcommittee, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3332(a)(5); Public Law 101-73, Sec. 1103 (as amended by Public Law 111-203, Sec. 1473(b)); (124 Stat. 2190); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1789. A letter from the Acting Comptroller of the Currency, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, transmitting an annual report to Congress containing a description of actions taken to carry out Sec. 308 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989, as amended, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1463 note; Public Law 101-73, Sec. 308(c) (as amended by Public Law 111-203, Sec. 367(4)(B)); (124 Stat. 1556); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1790. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits received June 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1791. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to transnational criminal organizations that was declared in Executive Order 13581 of July 24, 2011, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1792. A letter from the Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, transmitting the 2016 Management Report of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines including financial statements, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106(a)(1); Public Law 97-258 (as amended by Public Law 101-576, Sec. 306(a)) (104 Stat. 2854); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1793. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Agency Response for the period of October 1, 2016, to March 31,

2017, in accordance with Sec. 5 of Public Law 94-452, as amended; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1794. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Annual Report to Congress on the Medicare and Medicaid Integrity Programs for FY 2015, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395ddd(i)(2); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XVIII, Sec. 1893 (as amended by Public Law 111-148, Sec. 6402(j)(1)(B)); (124 Stat. 762) and 42 U.S.C. 1396u-6(e)(5); Public Law 109-171, Sec. 6034(a)(2); (120 Stat. 76); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

1795. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting the draft of proposed legislation titled the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018"; jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary, Armed Services, Foreign Affairs, Natural Resources, and Oversight and Government Reform.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 2258. A bill to require that certain standards for commercial driver's licenses applicable to former members of the armed services or reserves also apply to current members of the armed services or reserves; with an amendment (Rept. 115-189). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 2547. A bill to expand the Department of Veterans Affairs medical professionals who may qualify to perform physical examinations on eligible veterans and issue medical certificates required for operation of a commercial motor vehicle, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115-190). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 2548. A bill to reauthorize the programs and activities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency; with an amendment (Rept. 115-191, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALDEN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1492. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to direct the Attorney General to register practitioners to transport controlled substances to States in which the practitioner is not registered under the Act for the purpose of administering the substances (under applicable State law) at locations other than principal places of business or professional practice (Rept. 115-192, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1492 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Natural Resources and Financial Services discharged from further consideration. H.R. 2548 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (for himself, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. HOYER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BERA, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GALLEGÓ, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GONZÁLEZ of Texas, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HECK, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KIHUEN, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIND, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NEAL, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SABLÁN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SIREs, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SMITH of

Washington, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. VELA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. YARMUTH):

H.R. 12. A bill to modernize voter registration, promote access to voting for individuals with disabilities, protect the ability of individuals to exercise the right to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Science, Space, and Technology, Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Government Reform, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CUMMINGS (for himself and Mr. MEADOWS):

H.R. 3031. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for flexibility in making withdrawals from a Thrift Savings Plan account, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. KATKO (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 3032. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KNIGHT (for himself, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Mr. STIVERS):

H.R. 3033. A bill to secure the technological edge of the United States in civil and military aviation; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. WELCH, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. DELBENE, Mrs. WALORSKI, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. KIND, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. TURNER, Ms. MOORE, Mr. WALZ, Mr. POSEY, Mr. BEYER, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. STEWART, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. BOST, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ROUZER, and Mr. CONAWAY):

H.R. 3034. A bill to posthumously award a Congressional gold medal to Justin Smith Morrill, United States Senator of the State of Vermont, in recognition of his lasting contributions to higher education opportunity for all Americans; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. REICHERT (for himself, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. TIBERI,

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, and Mr. CALVERT):

H.R. 3035. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt private foundations from the tax on excess business holdings in the case of certain philanthropic enterprises which are independently supervised, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of Maryland (for himself, Mr. WALZ, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. EVANS, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GALLEGÓ, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. ESTES of Kansas, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. BERGMAN, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BACON, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. JONES, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. HANABUSA, and Mr. NORCROSS):

H.R. 3036. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to modify the Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) to include a specific block explicitly identified as the location in which a member of the Armed Forces may provide one or more email addresses by which the member may be contacted; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 3037. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the dollar limitation on employer-provided group term life insurance that can be excluded from the gross income of the employee; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. MOORE, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H.R. 3038. A bill to provide employees with 2 hours of paid leave in order to vote in Federal elections; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California (for herself and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 3039. A bill to designate certain Federal lands in the State of California as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to designate portions of the San Gabriel River and Little Rock Creek in that State as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. NADLER, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. LEE, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HIMES, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. RUSH, and Ms. LOFGREN):



H.R. 3040. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to take certain actions related to pesticides that may affect pollinators, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. ABRAHAM, and Mr. ADERHOLT):

H.R. 3041. A bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to provide an exception for a de minimus amount of fish or wildlife included in interstate commercial shipments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 3042. A bill to provide greater whistleblower protections for Federal employees, increased awareness of Federal whistleblower protections, and increased accountability and required discipline for Federal supervisors who retaliate against whistleblowers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS:

H.R. 3043. A bill to modernize hydropower policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MEEHAN (for himself, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. LANCE, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 3044. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand supplemental benefits to meet the needs of chronically ill Medicare Advantage enrollees under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MESSER:

H.R. 3045. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to extend the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. POLIQUIN (for himself, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 3046. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude employer contributions to 529 plans from gross income and employment taxes and to allow a deduction for individual contributions to such plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida:

H.R. 3047. A bill to correct the boundaries of John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Units P21, P21P, P22 in Florida; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SWALWELL of California (for himself, Mr. KIND, Ms. MOORE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. BORDALLO, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. GALLEGOS, Ms. MENG, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. CASTOR of Florida,

Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. VARGAS):

H.R. 3048. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the deduction allowed for student loan interest; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TURNER:

H.R. 3049. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the windows in military family housing units to be equipped with fall prevention devices that protect against unintentional falls by young children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. UPTON (for himself and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 3050. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide Federal financial assistance to States to implement, review, and revise State energy security plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. KATKO):

H.R. 3051. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require contractors to provide certain annual disclosures during a period of loan repayment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. GOWDY):

H.R. 3052. A bill to establish the Higher Education Regulatory Reform Task Force, to expand the experimental sites initiative under the Higher Education Act of 1965 to reduce college costs for students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MOULTON (for himself, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. NEAL, Ms. DeLAURO, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. POLIQUIN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts):

H. Con. Res. 65. Concurrent resolution honoring David Américo Ortiz Arias, the three-time World Series Champion Major League Baseball player who played for the Minnesota Twins and the Boston Red Sox for a combined 20 seasons; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. NOLAN:

H. Res. 404. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the need to create a small donor and public finance system for Congressional elections; to the Committee on House Administration.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. LEWIS of Georgia:

H.R. 12.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. CUMMINGS:

H.R. 3031.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution (general welfare clause).

By Mr. KATKO:

H.R. 3032.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article 1.

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mr. KNIGHT:

H.R. 3033.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. NEWHOUSE:

H.R. 3034.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. REICHERT:

H.R. 3035.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

"Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States."

By Mr. BROWN of Maryland:

H.R. 3036.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18)

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 3037.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII, clause 1 enumerates that, "The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises . . ." Further, Amendment XVI states that "The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census or enumeration."

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 3038.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution relating to the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States)

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California:

H.R. 3039.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8 "The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States."

By Mr. CONYERS:

H.R. 3040.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 3041.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the enumerated powers

listed in Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 3042.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS:

H.R. 3043.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority in which this bill rests is the power of Congress to regulate Commerce as enumerated by Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 as applied to waterways for the development of hydroelectric power and flood control.

By Mr. MEEHAN:

H.R. 3044.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to: Article I, Section 8, and Clause 1 and Article I, Section 8, and Clause 3

By Mr. MESSER:

H.R. 3045.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution;

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. POLIQUIN:

H.R. 3046.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 gives Congress the "Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises."

By Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida:

H.R. 3047.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. SWALWELL of California:

H.R. 3048.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. TURNER:

H.R. 3049.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. UPTON:

H.R. 3050.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 3051.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 3052.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Con-

stitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 19: Mr. JONES, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. MESSER, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 24: Mr. COLLINS of Georgia.

H.R. 38: Mr. COFFMAN.

H.R. 113: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 468: Mr. MACARTHUR.

H.R. 490: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. ROHRBACHER, and Mr. CULBERSON.

H.R. 502: Mr. COOPER and Mr. BERA.

H.R. 545: Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.

H.R. 566: Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 579: Mr. RUSH, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. KILMER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Ms. LEE.

H.R. 607: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 631: Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. WALKER, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 754: Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. BEYER, Ms. SPIER, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. POCAN, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BERGMAN, and Mr. JEFFRIES.

H.R. 778: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 828: Ms. BARRAGÁN.

H.R. 860: Mr. TIPTON.

H.R. 873: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. DESANTIS, and Mr. PERRY.

H.R. 911: Mr. POLIS.

H.R. 959: Mr. RUSSELL.

H.R. 997: Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 1044: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 1045: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 1057: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.

H.R. 1118: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1223: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 1247: Mr. MCNERNEY and Mr. PAULSEN.

H.R. 1322: Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H.R. 1368: Mr. MCNERNEY.

H.R. 1406: Mr. DENHAM, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. YOHIO, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BACON, Mr. NUNES, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. FASO, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. ALLEN, Ms. FUDGE, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 1421: Ms. NORTON and Mr. JEFFRIES.

H.R. 1444: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 1467: Mr. NOLAN and Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 1468: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 1480: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.

H.R. 1515: Mr. MCNERNEY.

H.R. 1552: Mr. WEBER of Texas and Mr. BUCHSON.

H.R. 1563: Mr. FORTENBERRY and Mr. FASO.

H.R. 1568: Mr. MARCHANT.

H.R. 1661: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 1697: Mr. CORREA and Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H.R. 1698: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, and Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 1699: Mr. RUSSELL.

H.R. 1776: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 1779: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 1810: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 1811: Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 1943: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H.R. 2043: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 2059: Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 2062: Mrs. COMSTOCK and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 2193: Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. HECK, Mr. REED, Mr. ROSS, Mr. POE of Texas, and Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2230: Mr. ISSA, Mr. CRIST, and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 2285: Mr. BUTTERFIELD.

H.R. 2295: Mr. RYAN of Ohio and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 2327: Miss RICE of New York, Mr. ARRINGTON, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 2383: Mr. WALZ, Mr. BOST, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. BLUM, and Mr. YOUNG of Iowa.

H.R. 2392: Mrs. DINGELL.

H.R. 2401: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Mr. DEFazio.

H.R. 2404: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 2418: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2431: Mr. BARLETTA.

H.R. 2452: Mr. COHEN and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 2550: Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 2635: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 2711: Mr. ESTES of Kansas.

H.R. 2712: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 2723: Mr. HARRIS, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 2746: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 2756: Mr. VISCLOSKEY.

H.R. 2823: Mr. BARLETTA.

H.R. 2825: Mr. PERRY, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. RATCLIFFE.

H.R. 2832: Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 2862: Mr. NOLAN.

H.R. 2879: Ms. BROWNLEY of California and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 2902: Mr. ENGEL and Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 2909: Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WALKER, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. GAETZ, and Mr. GRIFFITH.

H.R. 2915: Ms. SLAUGHTER and Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 2918: Mr. HUIZENGA.

H.R. 2921: Mr. WALZ.

H.R. 2924: Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 2943: Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. WALZ.

H.R. 2958: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2969: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 2979: Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. CORREA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. TORRES, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. PETERS, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. COOK, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California, Mr. MCCARTHY, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. LEE, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. BERA, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. ISSA, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2982: Mr. SABLAN and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2999: Ms. BONAMICI and Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 3008: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H. Con. Res. 63: Mr. ENGEL.

H. Res. 30: Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H. Res. 199: Mr. KNIGHT.

H. Res. 259: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H. Res. 267: Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota.

H. Res. 274: Mr. NOLAN and Mr. TROTT.

H. Res. 279: Mr. KIHUEN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. ROSKAM.

H. Res. 307: Mr. WALBERG.

H. Res. 317: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. YOHIO, Mr. WALZ, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. ROYCE of California.

H. Res. 342: Mr. KILMER, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H. Res. 395: Mr. KILDEE.